



RE-INVENTING CARICOM: THE ROAD TO A NEW INTEGRATION

A DOCUMENTARY RECORD

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Between the time of its establishment in July 1973 and the end of the 20th century, the Caribbean Community has undergone profound change. It is in the process of transition in itself from a Community to a Single Market and Economy. This transformation has proceeded from the recognition that the political and economic philosophy which underpinned its original structure are no longer applicable and could not accommodate the forces released by globalisation. In this publication, an attempt would be made to show, in the words of the resolutions, communiqués and other decisions taken by the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, how this transition and accommodation have come about. This involved a study and analysis of them for the period 1973 to 2000. These documents assume both validity and importance by virtue of the fact that, in the absence of a deliberative forum, they emanate from the highest decision-making forum of the Community.

A greater appreciation of the task at hand would be obtained if the situation antecedent to the establishment of the Community is briefly described. The Community arose out of a general situation in which the economic blocs were emerging. In Europe which led the way; in Central America where the Central American Common Market (CACM) was founded; in Africa where the East African Economic Community (EACM) was created; and in Asia where Asian blocs came into being, this phenomenon was pervasive. The significant implication of this development did not escape the Caribbean Leaders. One of the founding fathers, Dr. Eric Williams, at the time Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, noted in July 1963 that the Caribbean was about to “enter a world dominated increasingly by regional groupings, both economic and political. Western

Europe has succeeded, Africa is succeeding, and efforts are being made to translate the political association in the Western Hemisphere into Regional Economic Groupings — the Latin American Free Trade Area and the Central American Common Market. Small countries like ours encounter great difficulty in establishing their influence in a world dominated by power and Regional Associations.”¹

In studying the history and documentation of the establishment and evolution of the Caribbean Community, an important point emerges: A point which scholars, decision makers and other interested parties to Caribbean history and development must ponder and upon which they must reflect. I first made this observation in the introduction to the publication “Integrate or Perish”. It is this. That while the movement towards the first phase of integration had a pronounced West Indian bias, everything that happened subsequent to the demise of the Federation has had a pronounced Caribbean orientation. Thus, we have moved from the West Indies Federation to the Caribbean Community. It is a matter that Dr. Norman Girvan has also taken up in his article “El Gran Caribe”. This is how he has characterised it.

“The new awareness seeped into the popular consciousness. By the 1960s, in the aftermath of constitutional independence, Anglophones had started to call themselves and their institutions “Caribbean” rather than “West Indian”. Note how the *West Indies* Federation gave way to the *Caribbean* Community – CARICOM. Today we have a host of other “Caribbean” organisations: the CXC, CAREC, CARIRI, the CTO and many others. No matter that the membership of most of these institutions is exclusively or mainly Anglophone. What is significant is the subtle shift in proclaimed identity.”²

¹ Dr. Eric Williams: Address to the First Conference of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago, July 1963

² Norman Girvan: El Gran Caribe: John Clifford Sealy Memorial Lecture, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, April 5, 2001. www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Library/3954/

It was not only a question of establishing the influence of the Caribbean States in international affairs, it was also the determination to avoid the looming threat of marginalisation and the challenges of economic development generally and specifically those associated with poverty and unemployment. This was and is beyond any single State in the Region. Unity had to be forged. The single objective of a unified and economically dynamic Community had to be sought. No credible alternative offered itself.

Recognising the need to proceed as a united entity, the Leaders of the Caribbean Community launched a set of initiatives which saw the Region move from a Free Trade Area in 1968 to a full fledged Community five years later. As was to be expected, this Community, politically, economically and institutionally, was coloured by the existing philosophical trends of the time. In consequence, the Community aimed primarily at self-containment and self-sufficiency.³ This is well summed up by Arnold McIntyre when he says: “Traditionally, regional integration arrangements have tended to be inward-oriented with the expansion of trade and investment among Member States behind protective barriers.”⁴ The Caribbean Community was not an exception. But the difficulties encountered by the Community in the ‘80s and the fundamental changes in the international system demanded a restructuring of this paradigm. The Nassau Understanding of 1984, the Grand Anse Declaration of 1989, in particular, and subsequent decisions of the Heads of Government Conference were to effect major and fundamental change in the political, economic and institutional architecture in the Caribbean Community. This matter will be given greater treatment in another section of this Introduction.

³ Arnold McIntyre: *The Caribbean Community and External Negotiations: The Caribbean Community – Beyond Survival* edited by Kenneth O. Hall: p. 682

⁴ The Leaders of the Community in 1983 were seeking ‘self-sufficiency through inter-regional trade’ – 4th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

Thus far the developments of the Community have been sketched against a background of the zeitgeist of the period as defined by the decades of the '70s and the '80s. With the onset of the forces of globalisation, the Leaders of the Community understood that their approach to international affairs and its institutions had to undergo a major transformation. Beginning in 1989, a number of wide-ranging decisions were taken, which are intended to take the Community into the 21st Century.

But the economic difficulties encountered by the Community in the '80s in particular and the radical and seminal developments of this decade, which were characterized by the collapse of the Soviet Union and the emergence of the forces of globalisation, demanded a restructuring of this paradigm. The leaders of the Community demonstrated that they were equal to the task. Two documents, the Nassau Understanding of 1984 and the Grand Anse Declaration of 1989, lay the foundation for a shift from a Community that was defined by the zeitgeist of the 70s to one that was equipped to face the challenges of the 21st century.

It would be pertinent to point out that at all times the nature of the task of taking the Caribbean into the 21st century has been understood. An example of this recognition is contained in the following Declaration:

“We are convinced that as our people have uplifted themselves from the conditions of abject poverty to improving social and economic conditions, that they have risen from subjection to established democratic governance in free societies, as they have responded to the challenges of the last fifty years, they have summoned from within themselves the strength and creativity to succeed over the next fifty years and more.”⁵

⁵ Montego Bay Declaration: 18th Heads of Government Conference, Montego Bay, Jamaica, 4 July 1997. Two more assertions of this kind are worth noting:

(i) “The entire history of the Region, notably from the phase of emancipation to political independence, has represented a triumph of human assertiveness over deeply entrenched prejudices and powerful institutional and political constraints.”

(ii) “The Region must once again demonstrate its capacity to shake loose from traditional modes and practices in assuming responsibility for its destiny.”

A fact that has been remarked upon is the return to a consensus on the internal arrangements of the Caribbean Community. Before the tragic but seminal events surrounding the invasion of Grenada by the United States – the first time it had done so to an English speaking state in this hemisphere – the Agreement that made the smooth working of CARICOM possible appeared to be disrupted by what was called “ideological pluralism”. After Grenada, this issue disappeared from the agenda and the Community returned to consensus on political arrangements characterised by a form of liberal democracy. It is this consensus that made possible the major shift in the approach to the development of the Community as compared to the competing path to development which some states had adopted.

Dr. Girvan got it right when, in explaining the revival of CARICOM in the nineties, noted “... the tendency towards ideological and policy convergence among Member States due to the debt and adjustment crisis of the 1980s; to the collapse of the Socialist experiments in Jamaica, Grenada and Guyana, and to the end of the Cold War... These developments paved the way for a regional consensus on the necessity from market oriented policy reforms in domestic, economic management and for its correlate, ‘Open Regionalism’ as the model of regional integration. The shift was initiated in the Nassau Understanding of 1984...”⁶

The Nassau Understanding is a remarkable document and quite emphatic in its purpose: “The governments are determined to steer the economies away from a situation of economic and social breakdown.”⁷ It sets out the task undertaken: “It essentially involves a conscious and

⁶ Norman Girvan: Rally Round the West Indies: Remarks at the Launch of the Caribbean Community Beyond Survival, edited by Kenneth O. Hall, Kingston: Ian Randle Publications, 2001. Mona, August 31, 2001

⁷ The Nassau Understanding: 5th Heads of Government Conference, Nassau, The Bahamas, 4-7 July 1984.

determined shift to a new development path to accelerate development while adapting to major external or interior shocks in the economic system.”⁸ The Nassau Understanding also recognized “the intricacies of the development problem in the Caribbean.”⁹ While incomes per head may appear to be high in comparison to other developing countries, “these rest on rather fragile foundations.”¹⁰

Having set down these general markers, this document is frank in its assessment as to where the Community is in economic terms. It identifies a “sudden and sharp deterioration in the terms of trade”; “an abrupt increase in external debt servicing”; a “decline in the volume of major agricultural exports and local food production”; “the depletion of major natural resources”; “protracted fiscal deficits”; “contraction on imports and economic growth” and paramount need for “increasing deficiency of traditional sectors and developing non-traditional sectors.”¹¹

Despite progress in industrial development, “the manufacturing sector has not yet developed linkages with the rest of the economy, local entrepreneurship is not broadly based and the export capacity of this sector is rudimentary.” The productive sectors of the Caribbean economies “are not yet in a position to provide sufficient employment opportunities for the growing labour force.”¹²

The Nassau Understanding saw solutions to the problems of the Caribbean Community in a better educated population, the harnessing of technology for productive purposes, a vital and

⁸ *Ibid.*

⁹ *Ibid.*

¹⁰ *Ibid.*

¹¹ *Ibid.*

¹² *Ibid.*

vibrant private sector and an efficient public sector. In particular, the Region is urged to place emphasis on self-sufficiency in food. Good nutrition was also recognized as an important factor.

The Nassau Understanding represented a budget of the ills of the Caribbean Community and a prescription for its revitalization and regeneration. The Grand Anse Declaration which had undertaken to “strengthen the Caribbean Community in all of its aspects” built on the Nassau Understanding as did several important documents issued by the Heads of Government Conference of the Caribbean Community. From here on the Community recognized that development is a multi-faceted exercise involving such critical questions as education, technology, health, nutrition and the environment.

In consequence, in a number of the major declarations issued after the Nassau Understanding, there was great emphasis placed on these matters. The Kingston Declaration of 1990, for example, places great emphasis on human resources and sustainable development, while the Barbados Consensus envisages that entrepreneurial skills are vital to the task of economic development. The education system too is regarded as an area that has to be completely revamped: “The fundamental changes at the global level have created conditions in which economic well being has become increasingly dependent on the availability of a highly educated and high skilled labour force capable of being re-trained to meet changing demands.”¹³

The new approach to development and the revitalization of the economies of the Caribbean Community must take place in the context of a democratic framework. Democracy in the new

¹³ Creative and Productive Citizens for the 21st Century c.f. The World Bank’s assertion: “Until the primary schools can significantly improve the performance level of their graduates, and secondary schools and tertiary institutions offer a sound education for a much larger proportion of the age group than is currently the case, it is unlikely that most Caribbean countries’ labour force will be capable of supporting a developing strategy dependent more on human than natural resources.” (Norman Girvan: *Societies at Risk? The Caribbean and Global Change*: p.29 www.unesco.org/most/girvan.htm).

dispensation of the 21st century in the Caribbean, as in the rest of the world, has come to be regarded as a facilitator for development. In addition, democracy is seen as the principal link to that of “human rights, good governance, human dignity and the rule of law.”¹⁴

With these developments, CARICOM has put itself on the threshold of a new era of existence. A new paradigm of regionalism has emerged. The centre-piece of the new, or ‘open’ paradigm of integration is the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). The leaders of the Community have set different target dates for its completion. According to the latest Annual Report of the Caribbean Community “Parliamentary Counsels of Member States had made significant progress in integrating the Nine Protocols into a single revised Treaty, with the anticipation that the new Treaty will be completed in 2001.” What does the Single Market involve? The intention is to create a single economic space for the five million people of the Community characterised by the freedom of movement of goods, services, labour and capital, with supportive fiscal, monetary and administrative arrangements.

Structurally, the Community has also undergone an institutional transformation. In order to involve the people more fully in the integration process, the Assembly of Caribbean Parliamentarians (ACCP) has been created. The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) has been established with the responsibility of mediating in disputes and other misunderstandings which may occur among Member States of the Community.

In seeking to deepen its relations with Latin America and also to create opportunities in the context of the ‘new Regionalism’, the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) has been established and significant players in the sub-region have subscribed to the Agreement. The belief is that the

¹⁴ Bridgetown Declaration of Principles, Bridgetown, Barbados, 10 May 1997.

ACS can improve the bargaining power of the Caribbean Community both in the context of the factors of globalisation trade¹⁵ and the creation of the Free Trade of the Americas (FTAA). It represents one of the significant developments of this period in that it seeks to expand regional structures of the Anglophone Caribbean to include non-English speaking countries. Dr. Norman Girvan in his “Notes on CARICOM, the ACS and Caribbean Survival” has noted “The expansion of CARICOM’s membership and the establishment of CARIFORUM and of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) were key institutional expressions of this trend. Expansion of regionalism represented one of the responses to a changing external environment.”¹⁶

The creation of the ACS is significant; a few words ought to be said about it. The concepts of ‘deepening’ as opposed to ‘widening’ have challenged the leaders of the Community. Before 1992 the former was the preferred option. However, with the establishment of the West Indian Commission, there was a change. It recommended the deepening of the Community while widening functional cooperation with the independent and non-independent States of the Caribbean Basin. With the coming into being of the ACS in 1994, this idea became institutionalised.

Given the structural transformation that the Community has undergone and the consequential orientation it has assumed — political and economic — the consensus has emerged that the Community ought to be equipped to respond to the challenges of the new Century and to take advantage of the opportunities offered.

¹⁵ Dr. Anthony Bryan in his testimony to the American House Committee on International Relations stated that “...the ACS have a population of 216 million, an accumulated GDP of US\$506 billion, and does approximately US\$180 billion in merchandise trade. In a real sense, these statistics are an indication of the economic potential of a Caribbean bloc that is emerging.”

¹⁶ Norman Girvan: “Notes on CARICOM, the ACS, and Caribbean Survival”: Prepared for the Conference on “Caribbean Survival and the Global Challenge in the 21st Century” Institute of International Relations, University of the West Indies, Trinidad and Tobago, March 20-22, 2000. www.geocities.com/CollegePark/Library/3954/

A point needs to be made. In order to give some structure to the material covered, it has been necessary to arrange it according to periods. Periodisation has its difficulties but it is the only rational method which could bring some order and consistency to the task that has been undertaken, that is, to give a documentary account to the journey that CARICOM has made from a Community to a Single Market. It would be in order to say also, that the periodisation is not uniform. For example, it makes sense to periodise the establishment of the Community as being from 1973 to 1975. However, when it comes to the critical phase of the Community's existence during which the leaders of the Community are pre-occupied with economic matters, it makes eminent sense to end it in 1991, when a new phase of CARICOM is about to begin. The Sections on Functional Co-operation and Foreign Policy are not susceptible to similar treatment and the relevant periods are therefore set down on a uniform basis.

The structure of this publication will follow the lines of the three main pillars of the integration movement: Economic Integration; Functional Co-operation; and Foreign Policy Co-ordination; and extracts from the Communiqués and Declarations will be given under the respective headings. Also, despite the general introduction, some attempt will be made to summarise the events which highlight the developments in the context of these three headings.

• ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

The economic integration envisaged by the Treaty of Chaguaramas was one in which trade restrictions were abolished. The abolition of restrictions on the factor of movement were also contemplated. But what quickly emerged was an emphasis, since the creation of the Caribbean Community, on the question of free trade among the individual Member States. It is to be noted that with the establishment of the Community, there was a clear movement from the position where tariff and quantitative restrictions were abolished in order to boost trade, to one where these

restrictions were not only removed but restrictions on the factor of movement were also abolished. This should be borne in mind when the point is reached on discussion of the desire to create a single economic space where all restrictions on the movement of capital and labour are envisioned.

Economic integration is one of the principal aims of the Caribbean Community. It is provided for in the Annex to the Treaty of Chaguaramas. Five areas of activities are specified under the Treaty and these constitute the Common Market arrangements: Trade Liberalisation; the Common External Tariff (CET); the Common Protective Policy (CPP); Factor Mobility; Co-ordination of Economic Policies and Production Integration.

Despite these prescriptions of the Treaty, the emphasis as it evolved fell squarely on the question of Free Trade. The Community did and does experience many problems with the foregoing five of the six areas of activities. However, as the documents under review clearly establish, the main emphasis and concern of the Leaders of the Group was with Free Trade. Indeed, the expansion and deepening of the integration movement was linked to the question of Free Trade. In the period under consideration, that is, from 1973 – 2000, the question of Trade is liberally mentioned in the documents issued by the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community. In fact, the documents issued at that time contained approximately thirty references to the question of Trade.¹⁷

The Free Trade Regime outlined in Chapter Three of the Common Market Annex is similar to that which obtained in the CARIFTA Agreement. The difference is that provision is made for concessions to the Less Developed Countries (LDCs) of the Community. Initially, intra-regional trade, which was intended to give effect to the implementation of a Free Trade Area, and which

¹⁷ Further references to Trade will be found in Section IV

predated CARIFTA, had an auspicious beginning. It has been estimated that the value of intra-regional trade ballooned from US\$35.5 million in 1968 to US\$247.7 million in 1974, an increase of 700 per cent.¹⁸

This matter is important enough to warrant some elaboration. After the initial spurt in free trade, there was a precipitous decline. This was a consequence of the world economic crisis which was triggered by a substantial increase in the price of petroleum and its related products in the early seventies. The deliberations by the Leaders of the Caribbean Community underscore their deep concern about this matter and the need for corrective action. They recognised that a possible destruction of the Free Trade regime would have negative consequences for the larger issue of regional integration.

When the meetings of the Community resumed at Ocho Rios in Jamaica in 1982, Member States had been urged “to remove completely by the end of 1983, quantitative restrictions imposed on inter-regional trade since the establishment of the Common Market.”¹⁹ The urgent need to revitalise intra-regional trade and to arrest its deterioration again seized the attention of the Leaders of the Community, a fact dramatised by the expansion of extra-regional trade.²⁰ Measures to retrieve this situation were urged; practical steps recommended. Nevertheless, the Heads of Government at the 1987 Summit were constrained to note “with deep concern the continuing serious decline in the level of intra-regional trade and the fact that the value of intra-regional imports in 1986 had declined to less than 50 per cent of the 1981 level.”²¹

¹⁸ Boxhill, Ian, CARICOM: Its Shortcomings and the Case for Ideology of Regionalism, German Common Market Studies

¹⁹ 3rd Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

²⁰ 5th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-7 July 1984, Nassau, Bahamas

²¹ 8th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, St. Lucia

The Nassau Meeting 1984 in fact crafted the Nassau Understanding, which constitutes a comprehensive review of the economies of the Member States of the Region and the recommendation for structural adjustment. The implementation of the measures identified under the Nassau Understanding, among other things, was expected to revitalise intra-regional trade.

Intra-regional trade has not recovered the levels of the early days after the founding of the Community. But the point here is that its Leaders did make every effort to ensure its revival and stability. It was not an easy task. Mechanisms such as the Caribbean Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF), which was an important mechanism in this regard, had a rather unfortunate existence. The consequences of the world crisis meant that most of the Member States of the Community were distracted from questions such as intra-regional trade and had to focus on their survival, a development which necessitated in specific cases a preoccupation with trade beyond the region. However, by the end of the century, there was some indication that intra-regional trade might have a better lease of life in the context of the Single Market and Economy.

One of the bugbears of intra-regional trade and the overall process of economic integration was the supervision of the question of debt. The debt question came sharply into focus with the onset of the world economic crisis. At Deep Bay, Antigua, in 1989, the Heads of Government “reflected on the intense nature of the debt crisis and took cognizance of the position now generally accepted by the international community that external debt of the developing countries could not now be paid as at present structured, given the prevailing economic realities.”²² Previously, at Nassau, the Heads had recognised the gravity of the situation. They had therefore concluded that the debt burden was a constraint to economic growth. The debt question therefore came under scrutiny in the Nassau Understanding and there too it was recognised that structural adjustment

²² 10th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-8 July 1989, Deep Bay, Antigua

was an essential step in the resolution of this difficult problem. The debt question can be said to have abated in the late '80s and early '90s but re-emerged as a matter of particular concern towards the end of the decade.

The solution of the debt question is usually cast in terms of the developed states making concessions to the developing states. However, in the context of the Caribbean Community, there has been a development which needs to be recorded. Most of the resources available under the CMCF had been utilised by Guyana to purchase petroleum products. As a result, it had incurred a massive debt of US\$500 million to Trinidad and Tobago. The debt stood for a long time. But in 1996, Trinidad and Tobago was congratulated for “writing off a substantial proportion of Guyana’s bilateral debt under Naples Terms”.²³

A study of the documentation shows that the economic integration of the Community has not proceeded as well as would have been expected; a situation that is common to all integration exercises, given the inherent fragility and weaknesses of the constituent states and the unpredictable nature of the international environment. The integration of production which was expected to be so fundamental an aspect of the integration process seems to have fallen off the agenda from the early days of the movement. Yet it was recognised as an essential element of the integration process. At the 7th Meeting of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries in October 1972, for example, it was noted “that steps should be taken to integrate production within the Region by creating linkages between such activities in the various Territories of the Region.”

²³ 17th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

It should be stated, however, that a definite move was made in this direction when Trinidad and Tobago, Guyana and Jamaica sought to set up an aluminium smelter which should be jointly owned. It was scuppered, however, when Jamaica signed agreements with Venezuela and Mexico to establish its own smelters. This brought on the anger of the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, Dr. Eric Williams. Williams regarded the Jamaica Agreement as a violation of that reached with the three CARICOM MDCs.²⁴ The impact of this agreement should not be underestimated. It appears to have put to rest any further notion of the integration of production. There are no further references to this issue in the documents.

There are other issues that the Community has neglected at the cost of the integration process itself. Food production for example, an important matter for the Caribbean, after its initial treatment by the Heads has been left in abeyance.²⁵ Initially, the Regional Food Plan was announced at the 2nd Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community held in St. Lucia in 1975. An agreement was reached at that meeting on the Regional Food Plan: “The Conference adopted proposals for a preliminary work programme for the Corporation including the development of a proposed livestock complex relating to milk and dairy products, mutton and lamb, pork, poultry, and hatching eggs.” Nothing has happened with this matter beyond the conference. The Regional Food Plan seems to have been consigned to the archives of lost causes, even though the Region continues to expend substantial sums of money on the importation of food items, most of which is geared towards the tourist industry.

²⁴ Jamaica, Guyana and Trinidad were given equity shares of 33%, 33% and 34% in an aluminium smelter which was to be established in Trinidad. Jamaica, however, sought Bauxite supplies from Venezuela. The Project never got off the ground. Eric Williams objected to this course of action because he believed that it represented an assault on the agreement to build the smelter. The conflict clearly arose from different views of the States of Latin America. Williams saw them as a threat to the integrity of the Region; Manley saw them as a partner in development. Williams’ position is polemically set out in his address to the PNM entitled “The Threat to the Caribbean Community in the Seventies.”

²⁵ The Caribbean imports some US\$35 billion worth of food and as late as 1982

What is said in relation to the Regional Food Plan, can apply with equal force to the fate of the Regional Energy Plan, Regional Air Transportation and other schemes intended to promote the economic integration of the Region. In particular, the ability to formulate and implement an effective plan for the integration of the Region in the transportation sector has so far escaped the Leaders of the Region. This is true in the area of air transportation as it is in the domain of shipping. While there are several references to these matters in the documents, there is no indication as to how they should be resolved.

The failure of the Federation casts a long and gloomy shadow. And it does so in the sense that any suggestion of a supranational authority or, at a lower level, effective mechanisms for the implementation of decisions taken by the Community are carefully avoided. A remarkable fact in these documents is that at the 5th Heads of Government Conference in The Bahamas in 1984, the Secretary General of the Community Secretariat was mandated “to conduct a study, in consultation with Member States, of the system of decision making in the Community in respect of which consideration could be given to the introduction of the voting procedure other than by unanimous vote.”²⁶ This matter was raised again at the 6th Meeting of the Heads of Government Conference but did not become a major consideration until the publication of the West Indian Report.

Monetary Union is also an important aspect of any integration process. This was demonstrated recently when twelve European States covering some 300 million people agreed to accept a single currency. Commentators have observed that this development constitutes a major fillip to the cementing of the integration of the European Union. The importance of a single currency has also been the subject of deliberation by the Heads of Government Conferences of the

²⁶ 5th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

Caribbean Community. However, the treatment of this issue does not appear to have been consistent or vigorous.

The first substantive reference to this matter came at the 13th Meeting of the Heads of Government Conference held in Trinidad & Tobago in July 1992. At that meeting the Heads received a report from the Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago on the progress made towards monetary union. “They noted that the Report however proposed that the movement towards monetary union to take place in three phases with the goal of attaining full union by the year 2000.”²⁷

Former Presidents Burnham and Hugh Desmond Hoyte of Guyana, and the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mr. Owen Arthur,²⁸ have raised the question of the political direction of the integration movement quite frontally. In this regard, it is instructive to note what was published in the booklet produced by the Ministry of Finance of Trinidad & Tobago in September 1959 and which is widely regarded as having been written by Dr. Eric Williams: “Only a powerful and centrally directed economic co-ordination and independence can create the true foundations of a nation. Barbados will not unify with St. Kitts or Trinidad with British Guiana or Jamaica with Antigua. They will be knit together only through their common allegiance to a central government.”

²⁷ 13th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago. It is to be noted too that “Steps towards a Single Currency” was one of the recommendations of the West Indian Commission. The Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago had reported to the Third Inter Sessional Meeting on the 19th February 1992 in Kingston, Jamaica, and had indicated “that the relevant technical issues are under study.”

²⁸ “Integrate or Perish” Perspectives of Leaders of the Integration Movement 1963-1999 edited by Kenneth O. Hall p.xvii

Going into the issues which make for economic integration in great detail is not the objective of this exercise. Some of the important issues have been selected and discussed. The related documentation gives an idea of the scope and complexity of economic integration.

- **FUNCTIONAL CO-OPERATION**

Functional co-operation has enjoyed a measure of success. But here again this important aspect of the Treaty of Chaguaramas predates CARICOM; it existed at the time of the Federation. Functional co-operation has made important contributions to the life of the Community and its peoples. It has done so in the areas of education, health, meteorology, culture and sports.

In the field of education, the University of the West Indies, predating CARICOM, is an outstanding regional achievement. The University has played an important part in undertaking studies essential to the creation of the first phase of the Integration Movement and continues to be a valuable pillar of support. In recent times, it has been at the forefront of improving, sustaining and honing the resource base of the Community. These activities are most likely to be beneficial to the Caribbean Community in the long term.

With the help of the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), an array of Regional Institutions has been established. Member States have benefited accordingly. In the 80s the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI), based in Saint Lucia, came into being; it co-ordinates a number of environmental projects supported by Donor Agencies. The Caribbean Epidemiology Centre hosted by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, co-ordinates the epidemiological surveillance throughout the Region. And recently there has been co-operation in the area of dealing with HIV/AIDS, health protection and maternal and childcare. The Caribbean

Regional Drug Testing Laboratory, established in Jamaica, provides common services aimed at securing the safety of pharmaceuticals consumed in the Region. These are only a few of the areas in which much progress has been made in the area of Functional Co-operation. Others can be added. In the words of the Report of the West Indian Commission: “The work of co-ordinating regional endeavours, sponsoring and supporting Community Institutions, and providing common services across the Region continues to be pursued through all the vicissitudes of the CARICOM experience.”²⁹

However, it is debatable whether the potential in this area has been optimised. There are particular areas of failure, or, perhaps more accurately, zones of mixed fortune. This can be gleaned from a reading of the Declarations, Resolutions and Communiqués issued by the Conference of Heads of Government. Functional co-operation in the areas of sports, labour, tourism, health, transportation has taken place. But there is a school of thought which believes that the activities in this regard can be broadened and expanded.

In the area of culture, in particular, the Community can still take advantage of the cultural dynamism of the Region and transmute its obvious potential into a source of major economic benefits. The documents studied do not evince an understanding that the Region has a major cultural product which could be available for markets beyond the Region or that there is an appreciation that culture is an important and serious component of development.

- **CO-ORDINATION OF FOREIGN POLICY**

Article 17 of the Treaty of Chaguaramas provides for “the fullest possible co-ordination of foreign policies within their respective competencies. Article 34 of the Common Market Annex

²⁹ Report of the West Indian Commission, p 41.

includes provision for Member States to “seek” progressive co-ordination of their trade relations with third countries or a group of third countries.

The Community has been successful in particular areas. It is a well-known fact that it played a leading role in establishing the ACP Group. In the words of the Report of the West Indian Commission, the Community has been outstanding in its role of “conceiving, designing and negotiating the Lome Convention which has become by far the most important conduit of benefits from the EEC to a large part of the developing World.”³⁰ In this regard, it should be noted that the following observation was made in 1974 before the signing of the Georgetown Accord by which African, Caribbean and the Pacific States agreed to negotiate with the EEC as a single entity: “Conference reviewed the progress of the negotiations between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries and reaffirmed its commitment to a joint Caribbean approach within the ACP Group.”³¹

Decisions taken by some Leaders of the Community in 1972 prepared the ground for the recognition of Cuba and co-operation with that country, which continues to this day a CARICOM/Cuba Joint Commission crisis. The Community took this position, despite the fact that the major power of the Region, the United States, sought Cuba’s isolation. Space does not permit a detailed account of the Foreign Policy successes of the Region. Suffice it to say, the Community has been a valued shield in assisting Guyana and Belize in protecting their sovereignty and territorial integrity and enabling both Member States to exercise their right to sit in the Councils of the Organisation of American States (OAS), from which they had been debarred for many years.

³⁰ Ibid, p. 42

³¹ Inaugural Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community held on 15-18 July 1974 in Castries, St. Lucia.

The Community has also successfully concerted its position on major regional economic questions such as the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI), the Enterprise of the Americas Initiative (EAI) and more recently the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). A new relationship appears to have been with the leading hemispheric power, the USA, and institutions have been created to mediate that relationship.

The trade relations between the United States assumed a more serious character after the Caribbean – USA Summit on May 10, 1997, in Bridgetown, Barbados, at which the Bridgetown Partnership for Prosperity and Security was adopted. This document envisaged, according to the decision reached at the 13th Meeting of the Heads of Government Conference of the Caribbean Community held in Trinidad and Tobago in July 1992 that emphasis would be placed on “the importance of expanding trade relations with the USA...”. The next meeting between the US Government and the Caribbean Community “welcomed the arrangements for annual consultations between the Foreign Ministers of the Caribbean and the US Secretary of State and recognised the need for urgent and intense follow up to the decisions adopted at the Caribbean-USA Summit.”³²

The Community has had a long association with Latin America. The advocacy has always been to pursue closer ties with this region. Apart from being a member of the Rio Group, the Community has Mixed Commissions with Mexico, Cuba and Colombia. At the 12th HOG Conference, Caribbean Leaders “noted the intensification of relations between CARICOM and Latin American states at both the bilateral and regional levels.”³³

The Community has also engaged the Central American region at the highest level. Notable in this regard is the following Declaration in July 1992 in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad &

³² 18th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

³³ 12th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts

Tobago: “They (HOG) particularly welcomed the developments aimed at the strengthening of relations between the Caribbean Community and the countries of Central America, particularly the convening in Honduras in January 1992 of the First Ministerial Conference between CARICOM and the Countries of the Central American Isthmus.”³⁴

The Community has also maintained good relations with the major international organisations and institutions such as the IDB, the IMF and the World Bank. Discussions have been held with the Heads of these institutions at various times. The Presidents of Mexico and Venezuela have also engaged the Community Leaders in discussions, the results of which are reflected in the documents issued by the relevant conferences.

But the Grenada imbroglio demonstrated that competing national interest and different strategic perceptions could undermine the Community’s ability to present a united front to the World. Also, the fierce national pride that goes with the spirit of nationalism has been an obstacle to the need for joint representation. Failure to co-ordinate the Foreign Policy of the Community has led to disappointment and psychological setback, as in the case of Grenada. This is aptly described by the West Indian Commission: “With disappointing frequency we fail to combine our disparate voices when it would be appropriate to do so, yet we have had sufficient success when acting and negotiating together....”³⁵

³⁴ 13th Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

³⁵ West Indian Report Op cit p. 42

SECTION I

ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

PART I

BIRTH OF THE COMMUNITY

1973 – 1975

INTRODUCTION

- **The Georgetown Accord**
- **Steps to Community**
- **Some Economic Integration Instruments**

By the time the Caribbean Community got down to work on giving practical effect to its stated purpose of fulfilling “within the shortest possible time the hopes and aspirations of the Caribbean Territories...” by means of Economic Integration, forces were gathering which would challenge its very existence. Indeed, the birth of the Caribbean Community coincided with the unleashing of events which would plunge the World into its most profound economic crisis since the 1930s. For it was in 1973 that the third Arab/Israel War took place. Subsequent to this conflict the oil producing Arab States, in defence of their national interests, substantially increased the price of oil. The impact on the World economy was soon felt. Developing States, especially those in the Caribbean, suffered a body blow to their hopes and aspirations for rapid economic development.

The Georgetown Accord declared its high hopes for the Caribbean people: their hopes would be achieved in the shortest possible period; commitment was expressed to “ever-widening

programmes of Functional Co-operation”; and ‘closer economic integration’ was seen as the engine ‘of a viable economic Community of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries’. Steps to the creation of a viable Community were set out in concrete terms at the Eighth Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries in April 1973.

But by 1975 a dissonant note could be detected. The Community was now faced with “the adverse effects of continuing inflation.” Food self-sufficiency asserted itself as the Region’s food bill increased as a result of the economic crisis. A seven-year hiatus was to prevent the Community from treating with this crisis which had raised its head by 1975.

When Meetings of the Heads of Government resumed in 1982 in Ocho Rios Jamaica, the Leaders of the Community could not disguise the fact that they were dealing with a full-blown economic crisis which was testing the foundation of the Community itself. The severity of the situation provoked bluntness: “...Heads of Government expressed deep concern over the current World economic crisis which is reminiscent of the era of the depressed conditions of the 1930s.” Special consideration was given to the condition of the Less Developed Countries (LDCs) in these circumstances. Yet hope was not diminished at this first Meeting since 1975, and in the face of a severe economic crisis, the Leaders of the Community asseverated:

“The Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining and strengthening the Caribbean Community and to the deepening of the integration process. **They reiterated their conviction that the Community is a symbol of hope and a practical mechanism for the improvement of the quality of life of all their peoples.**”

The Summit Meetings of 1982 and 1983 sought to take decisions which would remove impediments to the economic development of the Community. In this sense they can be said to clear the ground for the Communiqué issued by the Conference of Heads of Government of the

Caribbean Community in 1984. It is an outstanding and comprehensive analysis of the economic ills of the Caribbean Community, which is at the same time a prescription for them. It addressed the need for structural adjustment and honed in on the critical issue of debt. It was at this juncture too that the Caribbean sought to revitalise intra-regional trade on a sustained basis and to tackle the question of energy – a vastly important matter for Member States, the majority of which had to confront staggering bills for petroleum and related products.

By 1986, the cloud of economic recession began to lift from over the Caribbean Community. The Heads could report “...modest signs of recovery in most OECS countries” and confirmed that the Structural Adjustment Programmes undertaken by Member States had created “the conditions for an immediate and substantially enlarged flow of external financing from both official and private sources at levels and on terms appropriate to their unique circumstances and very urgent development and reconstruction needs.” This confidence is reflected in the Communiqué issued by the Ninth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community in Antigua in 1988: “The Heads of Government... were heartened by the signs of positive economic growth in most Member States.”

The Tenth Meeting of the Community in Grand Anse, Grenada was historic. Seminal historic events intruded. The Soviet Union had collapsed and the gathering forces of globalisation were about to burst on the scene. Hitherto the Community was essentially seeming to expand intra-regional trade, position itself to deal with external economic developments, and create institutions as the CARICOM Export Credit Facility. This had to yield to the exigencies of the moment.

At Grand Anse, the Leaders of the Community pronounced themselves satisfied with “the sustained increase in intra-regional trade.” This was the goal they had pursued over several

Summits. They apparently felt themselves free to turn to the larger over arching factors of development and they did so in terms that were to have far reaching implications for the structure of the Community. Conditions were laid for the establishment of a CARICOM Single Market and Community and the related creation of institutions which would generally and comprehensively change the Community as it was then known. In essence, the Community decided to fulfill the ideas of the Community and Common Market by creating the CARICOM and the Single Market and Economy (CSME). But the Single Market was one mechanism to deal with the demands of the Twenty-first Century. Supporting ones such as A Court of Appeal and the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians (ACCP) had to be re-established.

But other important considerations also began to emerge. The question of the environment and its relationship to development began to take centre stage. The other issues of Global range which could impede production and development, HIV/AIDS, invite scrutiny.

In this section of the publication, Economic Integration is presented in terms of the Community's reaction to external economic developments rather than in terms of factors which could compel greater economic unity. This is the general direction in which a reading of the Documents would take us. But although unstated by the leaders of the Community there were and are certain factors which though unstated were eloquent by their absence. It is interesting that production integration is becoming once again a formidable subject for discussion and so is the need for a political directorate to guide the creation of a Single Economic space. William Demas once said that the Caribbean Community may one day find that in pursuing economic integration, it will end up being politically united. Has that time come?

“The hopes and aspirations of the Caribbean people....”

THE GEORGETOWN ACCORD

THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES THROUGH THEIR HEADS OF DELEGATIONS TO THE EIGHTH CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT OF COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES ASSEMBLED IN GEORGETOWN, GUYANA FROM 9TH TO 12TH APRIL 1973 —

DETERMINED to consolidate and strengthen the bonds of unity which have historically existed among their peoples;

SHARING a common determination to fulfill within the shortest possible time the hopes and aspirations of the people of the Caribbean Territories for industrial and agricultural development, full employment and improved living standards;

CONSCIOUS that these goals can most rapidly be attained by the optimum use of available human and natural resources of the Region and by accelerated, co-ordinated and sustained economic development;

RECOGNISING that over the past five years the Caribbean Free Trade Association has laid the foundation for the further progress in regional integration;

COMMITTED to ever-widening programmes of functional co-operation and common services;

AWARE of the vital necessity of enhancing the bargaining power of the Region in relation to third countries, groups of third countries and extra-regional entities providing goods, services and funds to the countries of the Region;

MINDFUL of their different levels of development and of the need to enable all Member States to share equitably in the benefits of regional economic integration;

CONVINCED that closer economic integration among member States will contribute to the creation of a viable economic community of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that it is the intention to establish a Common External Tariff as an integral feature of the Caribbean Common Market;

COGNISANT of the need to elaborate an effective regime by establishing and utilising institutions designed to enhance the economic, social and cultural development of their peoples;

RE-AFFIRMING the commitment progressively to advance the self-determination of all the peoples of the Caribbean:

HAVE AGREED as follows:

1. The Caribbean Community, including the Caribbean Common Market, shall be established on the basis of the Draft Treaty set out in Annex I hereto, hereinafter referred to as 'the Community Treaty'.
 2. The Treaty will be open for signature not later than 4th July 1973.
 3. The Governments of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago agree and undertake to sign and ratify the Treaty subject to and in accordance with their constitutional procedures so as to enable the Caribbean Community and Caribbean Common Market to be established on 1st August 1973 with these countries as Founder Members.
 4. The Governments of Belize, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent agree and undertake to sign and ratify the Community Treaty subject to and in accordance with their constitutional procedures so as to become contracting parties thereto on 1st May 1974.
 5. All signatory governments note the declared intention of the Governments of Antigua and Montserrat to give urgent consideration to joining this Accord, signature of which by either Government at any time prior to 1st May 1974, will constitute agreement and undertaking to sign and ratify the Community Treaty subject to and in accordance with its constitutional procedures so as to become a Contracting Party thereto on 1st May 1974.
 6. The Governments mentioned in sub-paragraphs (4) and (5) hereof who sign and ratify the Community Treaty to this Accord shall be deemed to be Founder Members of the Caribbean Community.
- 2.
- (1) The Caribbean Community and the Caribbean Common Market shall replace the Caribbean Free Trade Association which shall cease to exist on 1st May 1974 and which, prior thereto, shall cease to apply as between States who shall have become Contracting parties to the Community Treaty.
 - (2) On and after 1st August 1973, the Commonwealth Caribbean Regional Secretariat shall continue to be the administrative organ of the Caribbean Free Trade Association; but the Secretariat shall, in addition, become the principal administrative organ of the Community and thereupon shall be known as the Caribbean Community Secretariat.
 - (3) The Secretariat shall establish administrative procedures designed to facilitate the transitional arrangements for the continued operation of the Caribbean Free Trade Association until 1st May 1974, and for the enlargement of the Caribbean Common Market on that date.

- (4) States, parties to this Accord, shall take all appropriate steps to achieve these objectives.

3.

- (1) A Caribbean Investment Corporation shall be established by 1st June 1973, on the basis of the Agreement for the establishment of the said Corporation considered at the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries.
- (2) The Corporation shall be required to proceed expeditiously with a programme for the promotion and establishment in the Less Developed Countries of industries based on, but not limited to, the list set out in Annex II hereto.
- (3) Enterprises entitled to benefit from the Caribbean Investment Corporation shall be enterprises located in Less Developed Countries who are Member States of the Caribbean Common Market and, prior to 1st May 1974, in Less Developed Countries parties to this Accord.

4.

- (1) The Agreement for the Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives considered at the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries shall be applied with effect from 1st June 1973, among all States parties to this Accord:

Provided that such Agreement shall cease to have application to any Less Developed Country, who, after 1st May 1974, is not a Member State of the Caribbean Common Market.

- (2) It shall be a feature of the Scheme established by the Agreement that no enterprises within the industries listed in Annex II hereto shall be eligible for the receipt of new or extended fiscal incentives in the form of income tax holidays or tax free dividends from the Governments of the More Developed Countries for a period of five years in the first instance:

Provided that, after 1st May 1974, such obligations shall only apply in relation to Less Developed Countries who are Member States of the Caribbean Common Market.

5.

- (1) For the purpose of promoting industrial development in the Less Developed Countries industries which answer to the following criteria are approved for treatment under the provisions of Articles 56 of the Common Market Annex to the Community Treaty and, prior to 1st May 1974, under Article 39 of the CARIFTA Agreement:
 - (a) an industry identified in the Report of the Economist Intelligence Unit Team on Industrial Development in Less Developed Countries as requiring a substantial part of the market of the Less Developed Countries for viability;

- (b) an industry already established in a Less Developed Country which requires a substantial part of the market of the Less Developed Countries for expansion; and
 - (c) an industry requiring a substantial part of the market of the Less Developed Countries for viability and in respect of which negotiations for its establishment in a Less Developed Country are in an advanced stage.
 - (2) Nothing in this paragraph shall be deemed to derogate from the rights of Less Developed Countries under, or the procedures established by, the provisions of Article 56 of the Common Market Annex to the Community Treaty or, prior to 1st May 1974, of Article 39 of the CARIFTA Agreement.
6. With a view to facilitating the flow of investment capital from the More Developed Countries to the Less Developed Countries, parties to the Accord, a Double Taxation Treaty with tax-sparing facilities shall be concluded between the former and the latter by 1st June 1973:
- Provided that such Treaty shall cease to have application to any Less Developed Country, who, after 1st May 1974, is not a Member State of the Caribbean Common Market.
7. For the purpose of safeguarding the rights of Caribbean consumers with regard to standards and prices there shall be established not later than 1st May 1974, a Regional Commission constituted under the provisions of the Common Market Annex to the Community Treaty.
8. Special arrangements or mechanisms shall be adopted to meet the particular position of Montserrat.
9. With a view to safeguarding the special interests of the Less Developed Countries, the Common Market Annex to the Community Treaty shall provide as follows:-
- (a) In so far as the Less Developed Countries, except Belize and Montserrat, are concerned, their existing ECCM Tariffs shall be deemed as fulfilling their initial obligations in relation to the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market.
 - (b) Wherever the Plan and Schedule of rates in the existing ECCM, Common External Tariff differ from those in the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market, the Plans and Schedule of rates in both the ECCM and the Caribbean Common Market Tariffs will be subject to annual review in the light of the prevailing economic situation of the Less Developed Countries for the purpose of determining the appropriate Plan and Schedule that will be introduced; provided that the introduction of such a Plan and Schedule will commence not later than 1st August 1977, and the phasing period will end not later than 1st August 1981.
 - (c) In so far as Belize and Montserrat are concerned, their existing Tariffs on 1st May 1974, shall be deemed as fulfilling their initial obligations in relation to the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market. They shall progressively phase their tariffs in accordance with the annual reviews mentioned in (b) above; provided that, in the case

of Montserrat, the introduction of the Plan and Schedule will commence not later than 1st August 1981, and the phasing period will end not later than 1st August 1985.

- (d) There shall be an annual review by the Heads of Government Conference of the need for strengthening existing mechanisms or introducing new ones to provide greater benefits to the Less Developed countries.

10. A Scheme for the Rationalisation of Agriculture in the Region, containing special provisions for the Less Developed Countries, shall be introduced not later than 1st July 1975, and adequate protection afforded thereunder for intra-regional trade in agriculture products.

11. Immediate steps shall be taken to commence the technical work on a Regional Perspective Plan designed to make the fullest use of the Region's resources, paying special regard to the need to achieve specific developed targets in the Less Developed Countries.

12. Notwithstanding the commitment herein re-affirmed of all Member States to seek a group relationship with the European Economic Community, the right of the Less Developed Countries to choose their form of Association with the European Economic Community is re-affirmed and provision made to ensure that nothing in the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community qualifies or in any way derogates from the exercise of this right by the Less Developed Countries.

13. Consistent with the principles and understanding concerning the membership of Belize in the Caribbean Free Trade Association, nothing in this Accord or in the Community Treaty shall impair the right of Belize to enter into arrangements for closer economic relations with other economic groupings of the Western Hemisphere; provided that no more favourable treatment is accorded under these arrangements to other regional economic groupings than is accorded to Member Countries of the Caribbean Common Market.

14. In this Accord, references to "More Developed Countries" and "Less Developed Countries" have the meanings assigned to them under the Community Treaty.

Reached at Georgetown, Guyana, this 12th day of April 1973.

(Sgd. George C.R. Moe)
Government of Barbados

(Sgd. Robert L. Bradshaw)
Government of St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

(Sgd. George Price)
Government of Belize

(Sgd. John Compton)
Government of St. Lucia

(Sgd. Ronald O. P. Armour)
Government of Dominica

(Sgd. James F. Mitchell)
Government of St. Vincent

(Sgd. George Hoston)

(Sgd. F.C. Prevatt)

Government of Grenada

(Sgd. L.F.S. Burnham)
Government of Guyana

(Sgd. Michael Manley)
Government of Jamaica

Government of Trinidad and Tobago

Government of Antigua

Government of Montserrat

- **STEPS TO COMMUNITY**

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, 9th – 13th April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

“The Heads of Governments have agreed on the following steps for the establishment of the Caribbean Community and Common Market. The Caribbean Community (including the Caribbean Common Market) will be established on the basis of an agreed Treaty. As anticipated within the framework of the CARIFTA Agreement, the Caribbean Community (including the Common Market) will supersede the Caribbean Free Trade Association. This will take effect on 1st May, 1974.

“The Government of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago have undertaken to sign and ratify the Community Treaty, subject to and in accordance with their constitutional procedures, so as to enable the Caribbean Community and Caribbean Common Market to be established as between these four countries on 1st August, 1973. The signing ceremony will be held at Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago, on 4th July, 1973 the anniversary of the birth of the late Right Excellent Norman Washington Manley. The Conference chose this date as a tribute to the contribution to Caribbean regionalism made by the Jamaican National Hero.

The Governments of Belize, Dominica, Grenada, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent have likewise undertaken to sign and ratify the Treaty, subject to and in accordance with their constitutional procedures, so as to become contracting parties thereto by 1st May 1974.

The declared intention of the Governments of Antigua and Monserrat to give urgent consideration to the signing of the Accord and thereupon to assume the undertakings and obligations of a Less Developed Country under it was welcomed by all signatory Governments. A team of Ministers from the More Developed Countries accompanied by the Secretary-General of the Regional Secretariat, will visit Montserrat on 3rd and 4th May 1973 for the purpose of working out special development measures for that territory.

To mark this far-reaching advance in the Regional movement, it has been decided by Heads of Governments that, beginning from next year, 1974, the first Monday in July will be designated Caribbean Day. It was suggested that consideration be given to having this day declared a Public Holiday throughout the Region and that special Caribbean Community Honours might be awarded each year on that day.”

- **SOME ECONOMIC INTEGRATION INSTRUMENTS**

The Caribbean Investment Corporation

As provided for in the Accord, the Heads of Governments agreed to sign an Agreement at the conclusion of the Conference which establishes on 1st June 1973 the Caribbean Investment Corporation. The Corporation will be required to proceed expeditiously with supporting programmes of investment in the Less Developed Countries based on an agreed list of industries.

Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives to Industry

An Agreement on the Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives to Industry among the CARIFTA countries was also considered at the same time. This Agreement pays special attention to the needs

of the Less Developed Countries by, *inter alia*, allowing them to grant a greater maximum number of years tax holidays than the More Developed Countries as well as providing that the More Developed Countries will refrain from granting income tax holidays to an agreed list of industries suitable for location in the Less Developed Countries.

Intra-Regional Double Taxation Agreement

It was also agreed that a Double Taxation Agreement between the More Developed and the Less Developed Countries would be brought into effect on 1st June 1973 in order to encourage a greater flow of investment capital within the Region, paying special attention to the development needs of the Less Developed Countries.

Rationalisation of Agriculture

Another measure provided for in the Accord is the working out of a scheme for the Rationalisation of Agriculture in the Region, to be introduced by 1st July 1975 and which will contain special provisions for the benefit of the Less Developed Countries.

Regional Perspective Plan

Immediate steps will also be taken to commence the technical work on a Regional Perspective Plan designed to make the fullest use of the Region's resources. It will aim at achieving specific development targets in all countries of the Region, including the Less Developed Countries.

PART II

CRISIS AND RESPONSE

1982 – 1991

INTRODUCTION

- **General Economic Climate**
- **Structural Adjustment**
- **Trade**
- **Debt**

Since it is still true that politics is sometimes a condensation of economics, there will be a concentration on the economic challenges faced by the Community during this period. This does not mean there were not major political developments such as the situation in Central America or the collapse of the Soviet Union. Indeed, quite a few of these political developments combined to expedite the process of globalisation.

From 1982 to 1989, the Community focussed its energies on surmounting the major economic problems facing it. And these problems were quite considerable. The world had witnessed with the increase in oil prices in 1973, the worst economic crisis since the thirties. The fledgling economic Community stood threatened. But even as these critical events were taking place, the leaders of the Community did not meet for seven years. But when they did in Ocho Rios, Jamaica, in 1982, there was a will and determination to overcome the economic difficulties facing the Community. What were they?

The Member States of the Community were hard done by the world economic crisis. Some of them sought salvation in extra-regional trade. Intra-regional trade, so important a factor in the integration process, was declining rapidly. The alarm bells went off. The leaders of the

Community devoted a considerable amount of time to this question and designed mechanisms to arrest the decline in intra-regional trade. Debt raised its ugly head too. By the middle of the '80s, because of the inevitable slow down in the economies of the Member States, the integration process appeared to be hobbled by the debt crisis. Jamaica and Guyana had to postpone or delay major economic and social programmes as they tried to escape from the throes of debt and its adverse consequences. But here, as elsewhere, the leaders of the Community were to demonstrate not only will and determination but imagination and purpose.

These qualities are all incorporated in the Nassau Declaration, a survival document, if ever there was one. Here the economic malaise which resulted from the world economic crises and which almost posed a major threat to the Community is evaluated and a prescription for the attendant economic difficulties adumbrated. The main recommendation was that the Caribbean Community States should embrace structural adjustment not only to bring their economies back into some semblance of balance, but more importantly to facilitate the process by which investment and important financial aid could be obtained.

There was another important fact too. The inter-relationship between the factors of modern technology, health and education were emphasised. Later in the new decade, the Community would spell out this inter-relationship in greater detail. These economic prescriptions allied to the Nassau programme did cause some recovery in the economies of the Member States of the Community. The Community would build on the relative success of the structural adjustment programmes in its Member States to lay the foundation for a new kind of regionalism. The sapience of the Nassau Understanding provided the building blocks for the Grand Anse Declaration. CARICOM had entered a new phase of its history.

- **GENERAL ECONOMIC CLIMATE**

World Economic Crisis

“Heads of Government expressed deep concern over the current world economic crisis which is reminiscent of the era of the depressed conditions of the 1930s. They noted that the economic policies being pursued by the industrialised countries, including the resort to protectionism are the main causes of the present economic malaise.

In reviewing the situation of the developing countries, the Heads of Government noted the deleterious effects of declining terms of trade, high interest rates, dwindling official development assistance and private investment flows.

Heads of Government exhorted the international community, in particular the developed countries, to desist from the practice of protectionism and to institute new measures to stimulate financial flows as a means of restoring global economic activity and to ensure that the pace of economic and social development becomes more consistent with the objective of international peace and security.

They noted further the need for CARICOM countries to take full cognizance of ongoing developments in science and technology and their impact on development prospects. They agreed that it was necessary to incorporate this in their development strategies and called upon the international community to assist them in this effort.”

“The Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to maintaining and strengthening the Caribbean Community and to the deepening of the integration process. They reiterated their conviction that the Community is a symbol of hope and a practical mechanism for the improvement of the quality of life for all their peoples.”

**5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, Bahamas**

External Economic Relations

“In reviewing developments in external economic relations, Conference agreed:

Trade and Protectionism

- (i) to encourage Member States to continue to support the initiatives of the developing countries in the various international fora, to secure agreement by the developed countries to reduce present trade barriers, to resist tendencies to introduce new protectionist measures to facilitate developing countries’ exports of manufactured goods.
- (ii) to support initiatives towards the new round of multilateral negotiations with the full participation of developing countries.”

**6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1st – 4th July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados**

International Economic Situation

“The Heads of Government, in reviewing developments in the international economy, noted the inter-relationship of international monetary, financial and trade issues and stressed the need for an approach which takes account of this fact.

In examining those continuing social and economic hardships being experienced by developing countries as a result of their external debt situation, they emphasised the vital need for a general increase in the resources available to the multilateral financial institutions, so as to permit the financing of the overall development efforts of developing countries to assist them in creating the atmosphere of confidence necessary to attract increased investment flows.”

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

Modest Signs of Recovery

“Heads of Government examined the impact of recent international developments on the economics of the Region. They observed the constant, if modest, signs of economic recovery in most OECS countries and, in the case of the United States, the more significant but more volatile movement of the economic indicators. They noted with concern that these signs of recovery in the developed Western economies were not accompanied, as had been the case in the past, by an improvement in the prices for primary commodities in which CARICOM Member States had a traditional interest. They recognised that this lack of relationship between improved economic performance in the developed countries and resultant economic benefits to commodity-exporting countries was partly a consequence of structural and technological changes in the economies of the former. They also noted that the recovery had produced opportunities for exports of non-traditional products, but expressed concern that these could be thwarted by a growing trend of protectionism in a number of developed countries.

In this connection, Heads of Government welcomed the opportunities which the New Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations under the auspices of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) could provide for the reduction of trade barriers. They noted, however, the initiatives taken by some countries to introduce new areas for consideration in the negotiations. In the light of these new trends, Heads of Government resolved to take steps to secure the interests of CARICOM countries.”

“Heads of Government examined recent developments in the international economy. They observed that the pace of global economic recovery continues to be sluggish and reiterated their concern at the deleterious effects which the prolonged economic recession is having on the economic stability of developing countries.

They noted that despite the adjustment policies adopted by many developing countries, their economic progress continues to be constrained by falling commodity prices, increased protectionism, a declining flow of financial resources for development and rising debt burdens. They viewed with deep concern the combined effects of these developments which have resulted in the recent phenomenon of net financial outflows from developing countries as a group to the developed countries and the multilateral financial institutions. They were concerned that the continuation of this trend would threaten the stability of the developing countries.

They recalled their earlier statements that the crises of the developing countries were deep seated and multifaceted and could only be effectively resolved by a comprehensive set of policies which removed protectionism, increased financial flows and reduced the burden of debt servicing, provide remunerative prices for commodities from developing countries and maintained the pace of economic and social development.

The Heads of Government took note of the growing global awareness of the links between the issues of trade, growth, finance and development. They welcomed the opportunity which the forthcoming UNCTAD VII Conference provides for seeking solutions to these critical issues. They urged that this Conference should not be allowed to deteriorate into a mere debate on the issues but should instead work towards the development of concrete and practical measures to address the difficult problems which face the developing countries. They reiterated their

commitment to the UNCTAD as a multilateral forum for the solution of trade and development problems.

In the field of international trade the Conference also noted the efforts being taken under the auspices of the GATT to address the problems of the increasing erosion of the multilateral trading system. It agreed that CARICOM countries should pursue an active process of consultation and co-ordination with other developing countries in Latin America, as well as within the ACP Group, on the issues of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations with a view to promoting their trade interests in the Negotiations.

The Heads of Government discussed in full the nature of the international debt problem and its effect on developing countries, in particular on small middle income developing countries, and in that connection welcomed the initiative of the Prime Minister of Jamaica in proposing a strategy for dealing with the international debt of such countries.”

**9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 8th July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua**

International Economic Issues: Regional Uncertainty

“In their review of the Caribbean development within the context of the changing global environment, the Heads of Government noted the uncertainties faced by the Region in both the trading and financial spheres. They observed that Caribbean countries faced difficulties in obtaining access to international finance, particularly in the light of the reduced availability of loan financing and the increased cost of debt finance. They further noted that the threat of graduation from assistance from the multilateral development financial institutions created greater uncertainties about the future of financing Caribbean development. They recognised that, while

there was need to improve their international financial management, inflows of financial assistance on reasonable terms and conditions were still required from the international financial community.

They called on the international community to give more sympathetic treatment to the problems of small developing countries of the Caribbean.

Heads of Government considered the serious economic and financial difficulties now being faced by Trinidad and Tobago as a result of the collapse of world oil prices and took note of the fact that both international financial institutions and bilateral aid donors seemed not to be seized of the urgency and importance of these problems not only to Trinidad and Tobago but also to CARICOM as a whole. They recalled that during that country's oil boom, Trinidad and Tobago had provided other countries with significant amount of financial inflows and buoyant markets for goods and services. They therefore called upon the relevant international financial institutions and bilateral aid donors to provide external inflows, adequate in volume and on appropriately concessional terms, to Trinidad and Tobago to facilitate the ongoing process of adjustment and economic recovery in that country.

With respect to trade, the Heads observed that the Caribbean countries all had an interest in the attainment of a stable and equitable international trade and economic environment. They looked forward to a positive outcome of the Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations which would further strengthen the international trading system and make it more responsive to the needs of developing countries such as those in the Caribbean.

The Heads noted several important initiatives being taken within the international system to strengthen and foster the growth of south-south trade. In this connection, Conference noted the signature by two Member States – Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago – in April 1988, of the Framework Agreement establishing the Global System of Trade Preferences among Developing

Countries (GSTP). Conference reaffirmed the commitment to Member States to this effort at self-reliance through economic co-operation by the Group of 77, and looked forward to the launching of the Second Round of Negotiations under the GSTP, in which fuller participation by CARICOM Member States was anticipated.

Conference expressed its support for the objectives and the work of the South Commission and noted that Member States would make individual voluntary financial pledges to the Commission.”

**10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 7th July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada**

The International Economic Environment

“At the same time, the globalisation of the world economy was creating new centres of economic power, with states combining into large economic groupings and unified markets.

The Heads considered that these changes constituted challenges as well as opportunities for small states such as those of CARICOM. They stressed the need for their states to prepare for responding adequately to the challenges as well as for making maximum use of the opportunities. In this context, they understood the importance of the further strengthening of their own integration process and drew attention to the need for the adoption of co-ordinated national and regional economic policies.”

- **STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT**

**Declaration on Structural Adjustment and Closer Integration for Accelerated Development
in the Caribbean Community – The Nassau Understanding
5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, Bahamas**

Analysis and Solution:

Statement of the Problem

“Heads of Government recognise that structural adjustment is an integral part of the development process. It essentially involves a conscious and determined shift to a new development path to accelerate development, while adapting to major external or internal shocks to the economic system. These shocks could come about through occurrences such as a sudden and sharp deterioration in the terms of trade; abrupt increases in external debt service; continuing declines in the volumes of major agricultural exports and local food production, and the depletion of a major natural resource.

Similarly, countries which have gone through a period of windfall gains in exporting earnings and incomes face a situation where, after the booming export sector has slowed down, a legacy is left of extremely high expectations for improvements in living standards, while production costs in the rest of the economy have escalated to uncompetitive levels during the boom period. The task facing such countries containing expectations and finding new competitive lines of production is extremely difficult. Other countries are in a situation where their economic problems reflect themselves in the form of protracted fiscal deficits, contraction in imports and economic growth, and in the difficulties being experienced in increasing the efficiency of traditional sectors and developing non-traditional sectors.

All of these situations have a serious negative impact on the balance-of-payments, which experience shows cannot be eliminated solely by measures to contract demand through drastic reductions in public and private consumption expenditure, the compression of imports, and more restrictive monetary policies.

Demand contraction policies are appropriate where the elements of weakness in the balance-of-payments are reversible in a short period of time. Where balance-of-payments are

structural in nature, demand management needs to be accompanied by more direct measures to expand and/or diversify and make more competitive production of goods and services, both for export and for domestic consumption.

In such circumstances, demand contraction policies can amplify the already deflationary effects of the initial shocks, leading to a continuance of slow and even negative growth, however hard Governments may try to change the course of their economies in the direction of faster growth and development. Instead, there is a general decline in confidence characterised by the flight of human and financial capital, reduced production and productivity, and the emergence of a large underground sector in the economy. Governments progressively lose control over economic events which can put the entire economic and social fabric at risk.

The intricacies of the development problem in the Caribbean needs to be thoroughly understood. Although incomes per head may appear to be high compared to the other developing countries, these rest on rather fragile foundations. In the typical case, the economy is depending on one or two staple activities for the bulk of its income, employment, government revenue, and export earnings. The agricultural sector, in order to raise productivity and to establish efficient mechanisms — particularly with respect to local food production — needs improved skills and appropriate technology. Despite some progress in industrial development, the manufacturing sector has not yet developed strong linkages with the rest of the economy, local entrepreneurship is not broadly based, and the export capacity of the sector is still rudimentary.

The productive sectors together are not yet in a position to provide sufficient employment opportunities for the growing labour force. High rates of open unemployment and underemployment persist, especially among school leavers who are frustrated in the search for jobs and recent migrants to the urban areas. Such economic conditions breed chronic discontent,

crime, violence and political extremism, putting at risk national cohesion and the democratic process itself.”

**Determination and Prescription:
Objectives, Strategies and Macro-Economic Policies**

“The Governments are determined to steer their countries away from a situation of economic and social breakdown. They nonetheless recognise that meaningful adjustment is painful and can be difficult to manage as it may reduce the standard of living of the majority of social groups. Sensitive to the needs of the poor, they intend, within the narrow margins available to them, to adopt measures to cushion the adverse impact of the adjustment process on the most deserving groups in their societies.

Governments recognise a very important role for the private sector within a frame-work of a socially just market economy achieved through the catalytic actions of the government. They call upon all sectors of their populations to view the present economic difficulties as requiring the fullest possible exercise of local initiatives — thereby bringing into play all energies and skills, particularly of the young who are more literate than hitherto, and most adaptable. The Heads are also determined to actively encourage the considerable incipient entrepreneurship which exists in both the rural and urban sectors.

They decide that each Government will formulate and implement at the national level a comprehensive programme of support, and provide incentives for the emergence of broadly-based local entrepreneurship. Such programmes will include management training, assistance with identifying sources of technology and venture capital, as well as access to the range of commercial and financial services essential for business development — particularly in the export field. In the specific case of the rural sector, Governments commit themselves to further action for the better

utilisation of agricultural land and to modernise the sector through determined efforts to develop a broadly-based agro-industrial environment.

Heads of Government recognise that, despite the difficulties in the international environment, there are unique opportunities to be grasped by local entrepreneurs. The Member States of CARICOM have never had such a wide array of export market opportunities as are now available to them. A determined thrust towards more efficient production and greater orientation towards exports could help to transform the Community into a centre for investment and foreign trade through judicious management of the process. Such investment and trade could increase the resilience of the economies and substantially strengthen their capacities for sustained growth, development and structural transformation.

The Heads are mindful that their economies should continue to rely significantly upon market mechanisms to determine prices and the allocation of resources. However, a process of structural change cannot, under Caribbean conditions, be left to evolve through spontaneous forces. The objective of 'getting prices right' will be pursued through purposive national planning that will concretely shape the short and long-term directions through which the economies can attain their maximum growth potential and satisfy basic human needs.

Accordingly, Governments declare their intention to strengthen their machinery for national planning; to involve all sectors of their societies in the process of plan formation, implementation and monitoring; and to strengthen the links between development plans and the short-term management of the economy. Careful and continuing attention will also be given to the size, composition and financing of public sector investment programmes.

It is one of the tasks of planning to extend the arena within which all nationals in a position to do so can, on their own, or with overseas partners, contribute to the aggregate of investment and

production decisions that will accelerate growth and development. However, Governments are prepared to do more. In appropriate cases, particularly where new technology and new markets are involved and where local capacities have not sufficiently emerged, they will assume a catalytic role in starting new joint ventures with local and/or overseas partners, establishing from the outset arrangements for divestment to nationals. Governments realise that such a catalytic role requires insistence on the enforcement of sound commercial management practices, transparency in operations, and the establishment of independent machinery for monitoring and accountability to the public.

An unrelenting drive will be made to enforce operating efficiency in all public sector activity. Consequently, there will be an upgrading of the management and functioning of existing state enterprises and public utilities, including giving them the autonomy and responsibility to operate on strictly commercial lines within broad policy guidelines clearly laid down by the government. Also, there will be continual reviews of the possibilities of divestment of commercial enterprises to the local private sector and to joint venture with foreign partners where they are willing and capable of bringing to the enterprise new technologies and market penetration initiatives.

The Heads agree that the principal objective of macro-economic policies should be to achieve and sustain a dynamic and rational level, composition and growth of the domestic demand for goods and services and their local and regional availabilities. This involves, *inter alia*, fiscal discipline to keep public expenditure within the real resources available to the public sector, and the use of fiscal and monetary instruments to foster sustained growth and bring about an appropriate balance between consumption and investment. Altogether, the overall thrust of adjustment policies will be to increase the share of exports and investment in the aggregate demand

for goods and services, and to expand the contribution of domestic production relative to imports in aggregate supply.

Policy will aim at a greater outward orientation of the manufacturing sector and mainly, but not exclusively, at greater national and regional self-sufficiency in food. Heads of Governments decide to give top priority to launching a major export drive, both with respect to traditional and non-traditional items. They agree that, among other things, this has to be a truly national effort whereby the entire population becomes sensitised to the urgency of achieving competitiveness in all economic activities, whether directly serving export markets or not. Government support and incentive programmes for the export sector will be significantly upgraded.

Heads of Government are mindful of the mutually reinforcing links between export development and increased domestic investment and savings. The growth of national saving must come from the more resolute efforts to plough back profits, to limit non-essential consumption and increased personal savings, and to achieve larger budget surpluses in Central Governments, Public Utilities and State Enterprises. These have to be underpinned by policies of income restraint throughout the economy.

All parts of the society have a contribution to make to incomes restraint. Companies should limit dividend distribution and freeze executive salaries as well as fringe benefits for specified periods. The Trade Unions and their members have a part to play in limiting and moderating claims for increases in remuneration packages. The process of structural adjustment may result in some amount of short-term dislocation. It is acknowledged, however, that failure to adjust structurally will also have the consequence of the even more serious problem of large-scale unemployment. Governments themselves will exercise strict economy in public expenditure on

wages and salaries and on consumption. The Heads observe that incomes and prices restraint will give all of the economies a breathing space to translate productivity increases into more competitive cost structures which can be translated into creative investment, job opportunities, export and growth.

Although the role that exchange rate policies can play in achieving a competitive cost structure depends on the circumstances of each individual case, Heads of Government acknowledge that suitable exchange rate adjustments and/or productivity increases, arising from greater managerial efficiency, technological change and enhanced worker motivation are options that can improve the competitiveness of the Region's exports and attractiveness as an area for investment.

Heads of Government recognise that the successful execution of macro-economic policies contributes significantly to the improved performance of individual sectors. They are conscious of the need to alleviate a number of structural weaknesses in the more traditional sectors of export and domestic agriculture and mining, but recognise that this must be accompanied by a major thrust to expand and/or activate production in newer fields such as agro-industry, manufactured products with high world market growth potential and tourism. Accordingly, they give their broad endorsement to the Action Programmes as set out in the Report to improve sectoral performance in export and domestic agriculture, livestock, agro-industry, fishery, forestry, manufacturing industry, tourism, energy, bauxite/alumina, and science, technology and information.

They decide that these recommendations and the policies and programmes in the Report from which they derive will be elaborated, refined and followed up by the sectoral Ministries concerned and ask that Ministers report to them through the relevant Standing Committees on the progress being made with implementation.”

**National Economies and Process of Restructuring:
Signs of Progress**

“The Heads of Government reviewed the developments in the economies of the Region during 1987 and were heartened by the signs of positive economic growth in most Member States. They were concerned, however, that some Member States continued to experience difficulties with balance-of-payments, external debt and debt servicing. They observed that, while efforts towards restructuring the economies and improving national economic management had begun to show signs of progress, the external environment still played a decisive role in determining the performance of the regional economy. They recognised, therefore, that the relatively reasonable performance in 1987 provided no opportunity for a relaxation of policy and effort.

**Modernising Economies:
Investment in People and Institutional Reform**

In furtherance of the objectives to involve the population more closely in development and to widen the local entrepreneurial base, Governments agree to pay major attention to strengthening the educational system at all levels offering opportunities for the acquisition of skills that will directly contribute to the modernisation and development of the economy. Accordingly, deliberate efforts will be made to introduce technology as a major component in primary, secondary and tertiary education. All school children will be exposed to the principles underlying agricultural, technical and vocational skills. The systems analytical approach, including the use of computers, will be made an integral part of the formal educational system. Institutions of tertiary education will, as appropriate, introduce certificate, diploma and degree programmes in the information

technologies as well as courses geared to the application of these technologies in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism and other services.

Education, Health and Development

The tertiary educational systems will be strengthened and restructured to provide comprehensive training opportunities for para-professionals and middle-level supervisory occupations. Given the large expenditures and the specialist staff that such an upgrading entails, Governments will work closely together to develop the tertiary system as a regional network of institutions that will complement each other in providing the wide range of training required.

In this regard, Heads of Government agreed that the University of the West Indies, as the premier tertiary educational institution in the Region, was already making a major contribution towards satisfying the member States' requirements for professional manpower. They noted that, with the completion of the Mt. Hope Medical Complex in 1985, the University would have the capability to satisfy the Region's need for professional manpower in the fields of medicine, dentistry and veterinary science. They recognise the high international standing of UWI degrees, and urged Member States to desist from any steps which could impair that standing. They agreed that in cases where surplus student places are available, they could be offered to students from outside the Region on internationally competitive terms.

Heads of Government are anxious that everyone should have easy access to better health care. To this end, community and preventative medicine involving primary care, public health, and prevention will be emphasised. They are particularly concerned with the poor state of the nutrition in some countries which is not only the result of low incomes but also of limited knowledge concerning the nutritional properties of individual foods. Accordingly, they agree to intensify programmes of nutritional education; to focus on nutrition in maternal and child care

programmes; to have nutritional desiderata inform their domestic agricultural production mixes; and to pursue import replacement initiatives in their continuing efforts to ensure adequate nutritional levels for their populations.

Heads of Government realise that improvements in education and health will have beneficial effects on productivity and efficiency. However, specific steps will also be taken to achieve thorough-going institutional reform. This will include virtually all of the public institutions servicing the economy in areas such as development finance and credit; research and extension services; agricultural marketing systems and services; educational, science and technology; industrial, agricultural and tourist promotion; and export promotion. The entire public institutional framework will be geared towards becoming more result oriented, setting the pace for the economy as a whole. The agencies concerned will be restructured to make them into centres of creativity, innovation, operational efficiency and dedication to the achievement of national goals.

The Role of the Public Service

The public services themselves urgently require major upgrading and reform. Governments will take immediate steps to strengthen the capacities of the public service for policy analysis and for financial management. Special attention will be paid to improving the machinery for planning, budgeting and project implementation.

- **TRADE**

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 15th – 18th November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

Revitalising Intra-regional Trade

‘They noted in respect of trade that instances of quantitative restrictions and alleged violations of the Rules of Origin have emerged.

They also noted the continued adverse foreign exchange situation facing the Governments of the Region and the effect this was having on the operations of the CARICOM Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF). They commended the new initiatives taken by the Board of the CMCF to strengthen the Facility with a view to revitalising the flow of intra-regional trade.

They emphasised the need to expand intra-regional trade as a means of stimulating economic growth in Member States and:

- (i) requested the Standing Committee of Ministers Responsible for Finance to re-examine the need for joint measures to deal with the general problem of trade imbalances and balance-of-payments difficulties;
- (ii) urged Member States to remove completely by the end of 1983, quantitative restrictions imposed on intra-regional trade since the establishment of the Common Market (except those introduced under Article 56 of the Annex to the Treaty);
- (iii) urged the Common Market Council to discharge its responsibilities as required under the provisions of Article 28(2) in cases where report is made thereto by Member States;
- (iv) agreed to the provision by Member States of information on the operations of State Trading Enterprises towards an assessment of the role of these enterprises in the expansion of intra-regional trade;
- (v) agreed to support the present initiative of the CMCF to seek additional resources to permit expansion of its operation;
- (vi) agreed to support the maintenance and viability of the garment industry;
- (vii) urged that Member States should strictly observe the provisions of the Rules of Origin of the Caribbean Common Market;
- (viii) urged Member States to give priority to regionally produced goods of comparable quality over similar goods from Third Countries.”

Increasing Intra-regional Trade

“In stressing the cardinal importance of revitalising intra-regional trade, the Conference endorsed the important and wide-ranging decisions taken on this matter by the Common Market Council at its Twenty-Fifth Meeting.

The Council had noted the continued deterioration of intra-regional trade, simultaneous expansion of extra-regional trade, and determined to undertake an immediate and urgent programme aimed at having the effect of visibly restoring and increasing intra-regional trade. Towards this end, the Heads of Government accepted that the CARICOM Secretariat should continuously monitor intra-regional trade, with particular emphasis on a selected range of commodities, and its findings would be reviewed at each Meeting of the Council. The monitoring mechanism would include observation of Member States’ market prices.

Noting a proposal that Member States should undertake to satisfy their domestic requirements for sugar from regional sources, provided production levels so permit, Conference directed that Common Market Council re-examine the Agreement under which sugar from Member States is sold in CARICOM markets.

The Heads of Member States noted the undertakings to strengthen their individual certification and verification procedures for ensuring compliance with the CARICOM Area Origin Rules.”

Intra-regional Trade: Implementation of Nassau Measures

“The Heads of Government noted the current status of implementation of the measures agreed in Nassau which were originally to have been introduced by 1 January. They reaffirmed that it remains the intention of Member States to implement the measures and agreed that the required implementing action that is still outstanding will be completed by all the Member States concerned by 31st August, 1985.”

**7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1st – 4th July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana**

**Intra-regional Trade:
Status of Implementation of Nassau Measures**

“Heads of Government noted the trends in intra-regional trade and the status of the implementation of the package of measures agreed to in Nassau, The Bahamas for the resuscitation of such trade. They agreed to take all necessary steps to complete the implementation of these measures and, within the limits of their foreign exchange management policies and the provisions of the Treaty, to identify and remove all non-tariff restrictions on intra-regional trade. They further agreed that Member States which imposed stamp duties on imports would review such measures with a view to their discontinuance in respect of CARICOM trade.

Opportunity was taken at the Conference to advance a number of trading matters in bilateral discussions. Conference took note of the understandings reached on those issues.

In reviewing regional trade in agricultural commodities, Heads of Government took note of a number of specific problems with respect to trade in beef, sugar, arrowroot and oils and fats.

Heads of Government decided on steps to be taken in dealing with the problems raised.”

**8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29th June – 3rd July 1987, Castries, St. Lucia**

Crisis in Intra-Regional Trade: Continuing Decline

“Conference noted with deep concern the continuing serious decline in the level of intra-regional trade and the fact that the value of intra-regional imports in 1986 had declined to less than 50 per cent of the 1981 level.

Conference also noted the recent decision by OECS countries to liberalise intra-OECS trade as of January 1988 and welcomed this as a positive first step towards the total liberalisation of trade within CARICOM in goods which satisfy the Origin Rules.

Conference endorsed the decision of the Common Market Council which called on the CARICOM Member States to remove all measures restricting intra-regional trade by the end of the third quarter of 1988. Towards this end, an interim regime had been agreed under which Member States are committed not to apply any new restrictions on Common Market trade in contravention of the Annex to the Treaty of Chaguaramas; to grant favourable treatment to Common Market goods in the application of measures governing the conduct of their foreign trade; and that there would be unrestricted free trade with the automatic grant of import licences and the allocation of foreign exchange, where applicable, on items included in a list to be drawn up by Member States. The list will be approved at a Special Meeting of the Common Market Council to be convened in Guyana on October 19-20, 1987, to which the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce would be invited. For those items not in the approved list, every effort would be made to improve intra-regional trade.

Conference also agreed on agreements for the ongoing identification and elimination of measures impeding intra-regional trade, involving the consideration by Council of regular reports by the Secretariat of the incidence of restrictions in Member States. In this regard, Conference

also decided on the dissemination of full information on, and the effective implementation of, the agreed procedures governing the certification and verification of the Common Market origin status of goods.

Conference further recommended to Member States the removal of any discrimination as between nationals and other CARICOM salesmen of the requirements of payments of licence fees, where the products to be marketed are exclusively of CARICOM origin.”

- **DEBT**

**5th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas**

In reviewing development in external economic relations, Conference agreed:

External Debt

- (i) that the grave crisis which most debtor countries are now facing is a matter of deep concern;
- (ii) that the present debt burden is such that most debtor countries are unable to cope with it, let alone achieve the economic growth rates that their respective situations demand;
- (iii) that the debt problem must be addressed internationally, as a matter of urgency, if the developing countries are to play their part in the global economic recovery, signs of which can now be seen in the developed countries;
- (iv) to call on –
 - (a) the IMF to extend the period of adjustment under their extended Fund Facility of five years;
 - (b) the World Bank to make more funds available to enable developing countries to undertake necessary structural adjustments to their economies;
 - (c) the commercial banks, where dictated by circumstances of borrowing countries, to prepare meaningful programmes for rescheduling of short term debts including

extending the repayment periods and also maintaining their net exposure in developing countries;

- (d) creditor countries to give support to their relevant financial institutions to enable increased trade credits to be extended to developing countries and also to give their support to increasing the resources of multilateral institutions to enable them to give more meaningful support to developing countries.”

**10th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 7th July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada**

External Debt: A Resurgence

“Heads of Government reflected on the intense nature of the debt crisis and took cognizance of the position now generally accepted by the international community that the external debt of many of the developing countries could not now be paid as at present structured, given the prevailing economic realities. They noted the various initiatives being developed to resolve the issues, including the recent statement by the United States Secretary of Treasury, Brady.

Heads of Government gave explicit recognition to the fact that there are debtor countries of the CARICOM Region which are among the most heavily indebted developing countries in relation to both the gross domestic product and their debt servicing capacity and that in the case of those countries, this debt is, to a very large extent, held by the multilateral financing institutions. They emphasised the urgent need of these countries for debt service reduction in a programmed way.

Recognising the gravity of the external debt crisis, the Heads agreed that both the debtor and creditor countries should meet to address the issues involved. They therefore supported the position that an International Debt Conference should be convened to develop a common approach to the resolution of the existing crisis.”

**The External Debt Problem:
Regional and Hemispheric Initiatives**

“Heads of Government welcomed the recent initiatives being taken at the hemispheric and global levels to address the problem of the indebtedness of developing countries. They noted, in particular, the efforts being made to address the problems of the lower middle-income countries, such as the application of the terms agreed by the Group of Seven countries in Houston last year. They noted that proposals had also emerged to further address this problem of low-income countries and urged the Paris Club to speedily conclude consideration of these proposals.

Heads reiterated the view that arrangements to address the problem of indebtedness should include measures which significantly reduce the interest on outstanding debt and also reduce the stock of existing debt. They observed that approximately one third of the outstanding debt of Caribbean countries was owed to the multilateral financial institutions and urged that these institutions make a greater effort to provide debt relief.

Heads of Government welcomed the progress made by the US government to implement the debt proposal made with the context of the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative, but expressed concern that the modification proposed by the US Congress could seriously erode the potential benefits.”

PART III
A ROAD MAP FOR THE 21ST CENTURY
1991 – 2001

INTRODUCTION

- **Democracy**
- **New Institutions**
 - i) **Caribbean Community**
 - ii) **Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ)**
 - iii) **Association of Caribbean States (ACS)**
 - iv) **Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM)**
 - v) **Assembly of the Caribbean Community Parliamentarians (ACCP)**
- **The New Economic Situation**
 - i) **General Economic Environment**
 - ii) **The Single Market and Economy**
 - iii) **Environment and Development**

It must have been observed that there is no reference to any major political matter so far. The reason for this is quite simple and understandable. At the very instance of its birth, the Caribbean Community was threatened by economic not political forces. As has already been demonstrated, the world economic crisis hit the Community hard and compelled major adjustments by the Community itself and individual Member States. Accordingly, between 1973 and 1989 there was an evident pre-occupation with economic matters. A change occurred some time after the Grand Anse Declaration. Powerful political forces were let loose on the world and these had an impact on the Community and shaped the thinking of its leadership. Thus, the question of democracy, good governance, the rule of law, citizen participation and all of the modern elements

of the existing political environment are very much to the fore. These forces have been accommodated in the remarkable set of institutions created by the Community. These are political as well as economic in nature.

It is therefore necessary in this section of the publication to sketch in general terms the political framework in which the Community is to assume its new identity. One of the key institutions in this regard is the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ). This institution is intended to regulate the differences between Member States. The Charter of Civil Society spells out in clear terms the rights and duties of the Caribbean citizen. The Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians is also a product of the drive to create institutions compatible with the new international environment in which the Community finds itself. The complex of these institutions and, in particular, the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas in fact has given the Caribbean a new political and economic personality.

The single most important institution that the Community seeks to create is the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME). This has been defined as a process leading to “the free movement of factors of production and the harmonisation of monetary policies”³⁶ as important components.

Like most integration movements worldwide, the Community has recognised that in the context of the regional and international movement towards a single economic space, it cannot stand aside. The creation of the CSME therefore has become a critical focus of the work of the Community in the last decade of the 20th century.

³⁶ The Montego Bay Declaration – Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

But the Caribbean Community understands that it cannot stand by itself. It has to ally itself with other strategic states and regional groupings within the Region. Apart from spelling out the necessity “in following up possibilities for greater trade and economic co-operation within Latin America”,³⁷ the leadership of the Community determined that it would ally itself with the countries of the Caribbean Basin and therefore brought into being the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

In all this the Caribbean Community aims at an objective that is an identifiable part of the global agenda:

“The Caribbean should be seen as part of the world where the population enjoys a good quality of life with the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health care and employment being all virtually satisfied. The environment should be one which provides clean air and water, unpolluted seas and healthy communities — an environment that has not been destroyed by the development process.”³⁸

- **Democracy**

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

A Democratic Framework

The Kingston Declaration on Democracy and Popular Participation

“We the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, assembled at Kingston, Jamaica –

DECLARE as follows:

³⁷ The Nassau Understanding – Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

³⁸ Creative and Productive Citizens for the Twenty-first Century – 17th Meeting 3-6 July 96 Bridgetown Barbados

We resolve, and enjoin our citizens to pursue all of our just economic, social and political objectives within the framework of our deeply cherished democratic traditions.

We are determined to strengthen the processes by providing every opportunity for the full involvement of all our citizens in the governance of their affairs, in particular the deepening of our integration effort toward the achievement of a truly authentic Caribbean personality.

We reiterate our commitment to establishing an Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians with representatives from both government and opposition members of our Parliaments. This Assembly will be deliberative and consultative and will, we confidently expect, be a powerful influence on the integration movement and on furthering democratic processes in the Region.”

**15th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1994, St. Michael, Barbados**

Charter of Civil Society: Progress Report Received

“Heads of Government recalled that the draft Charter of Civil Society had been adopted by the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference held in The Bahamas in July 1993, as the basis for national consultations. They received reports on progress being made and reaffirmed the importance of continued emphasis being placed by all Member States on ensuring that the Charter received the widest discussion by CARICOM nationals, prior to its implementation. They endorsed the need for the widest possible dissemination of the provisions and aims of the Charter in order to assist in sensitising the public to its provisions.”

8th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 20th – 21st February 1997, St. John’s, Antigua

The Charter of Civil Society is Born

“...Consonant with the perception of the West Indian Commission which recommended its development and adoption, the Charter of Civil Society is declaratory and does not itself create legally binding obligations. However, it consolidates various obligations and undertakings assumed by CARICOM States in relation to good governance, including respect for civil, political and economic rights and the rule of law.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

Charter of Civil Society Drafted

“Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to a Charter of Civil Society and noted the progress that had been made in its drafting. They mandated the Attorneys-General and Ministers of Legal Affairs to meet as early as possible to refine the Draft Charter in order to permit its signing at the next Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference.”

11^h Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 13^h – 14^h March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis

Involvement of Wider Civil Society: Necessity of the Opposition

“In keeping with the commitment contained in the Consensus of Chaguaramas, to promote consensus-building and the involvement of civil society in the Regional integration process, Heads of Government reiterated the special need for Opposition leaders to be brought into the process. They requested the Secretary-General to take advantage of his presence in Member States to brief Opposition Leaders on developments in the regional integration process. They noted that the Annual Meeting of the Assembly of Parliamentarians would also be an opportunity for updating both Government and Opposition parliamentarians on regional issues.

In the meantime, Heads of Government committed themselves to strengthening their national consultation mechanisms to support efforts being made at the regional level to provide for the greater involvement of civil society.”

12th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 14th – 15th February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Democracy and Popular Participation:

“Heads of Government considered the issue of governance in the Region. They reaffirmed their commitment to democracy and popular participation as enshrined in the Charter of Civil Society and adopted by the Conference in 1997 as well as the Kingston Declaration on Democracy and Popular Participation adopted in July 1990. They pledged to work together to maintain and strengthen the institutions and processes essential to democratic Government and in this regard, enjoined their citizens to pursue all of their just economic, social and political objectives within the framework of the Region’s deeply cherished democratic traditions.”

22nd Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 3rd – 6th July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

**Inter American Democratic Charter:
Representative Democracy, Good Governance, Rule of Law**

“Heads of Government emphasised the long-standing tradition of adherence to the principles of representative parliamentary democracy, good governance and the rule of law, which characterise the Governments of CARICOM Member States, and which had furthermore been enshrined in the Charter of Civil Society of the Caribbean Community. They were therefore fully committed to supporting all genuine efforts aimed at strengthening the institutions of democracy throughout the hemisphere and at enhancing inter-American co-operation in defence of

representative democracy, including through the adoption of further instrument such as the Inter-American Democratic Charter, as proposed by the Third Summit of the Americas, held in Quebec City, in April 2001.

In that regard, Heads of Government stressed that the proposed Charter was a document of fundamental importance, which should be developed with the utmost care through the most inclusive and well-informed dialogue among Member States, including the full involvement of civil society, and taking into account the constitutional and legal procedures of each Member State. Every effort should be made to produce a final document which, through the clarity of its provisions and the political support it commanded among the Governments and peoples of the Americas, would be both implementable and effective.

Heads of Government were satisfied that the appropriate processes were now in place to facilitate the wide ranging and serious consultations necessary to give effect to the mandate of Quebec City, and looked forward to the active contribution of their Governments and civil society to the drafting process leading to the adoption of the Charter in Lima, in September this year.”

- **New Institutions**

- i) **Caribbean Community**

Special Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: 28th – 31st October 1992
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- A Bureau of Heads of Government**

“The Heads of Government accepted that there was need to strengthen the Community’s institutional structure and implementation process. They recognised that in order to be effective, the machinery established must have political authority. With this in mind, they agreed to establish

a Bureau comprising the current Chairman of the Conference, the outgoing and incoming Chairmen of the Conference, as well as the Secretary-General acting in the capacity of Chief Executive Officer. The Chairman would rotate on a six-monthly basis. The Bureau would have competence to initiate proposals, update consensus, mobilise action and secure the implementation of CARICOM decisions in an informed and expeditious manner.

The Heads of Government also agreed that this system would be put in place 1st January, 1993.”

Special Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: 28th – 31st October 1992

The CARICOM Secretariat

“The Heads of Government also agreed that the CARICOM Secretariat would be strengthened through vesting the Secretary-General, by provisions in the Treaty, with the appropriate executive authority needed to carry out his tasks. They requested him to prepare proposals for the restructuring of the Secretariat, which would aim at providing the Secretariat with appropriate skills needed for both deepening and widening the integration process. These proposals would be presented for the consideration of the Heads of Government at their Fourth Inter-Sessional Meeting.”

The Council of Ministers

“The Heads of Government agreed that to further enhance the capacity of the Member States to implement decisions of the Community, there should be designated in each Member State, a Minister responsible for CARICOM Affairs. They further agreed that these Ministers would constitute a Caribbean Community Council of Ministers, which would eventually replace the Common Market Council of Ministers as the second highest Organ of the Community.”

Allocation of Portfolios

“The Heads of Government in keeping with the decision in the Consensus of Chaguaramas adopted at the Special Meeting of the Conference in October 1999, to constitute a quasi-cabinet of individual Heads of Government to spearhead action in sectors critical to the Region’s integration and its vision of development into the twenty-first century, agreed to the distribution of portfolios set out below:

Regional Portfolio Distribution among CARICOM Heads of Government

	COUNTRY
External Negotiations	Jamaica
Single Market and Economy (including Monetary Union)	Barbados
Health (including HIV/AIDS) and Human Resource Development	St Kitts and Nevis
Science and Technology	Grenada
Tourism (including Land, Cruise, Suva Partnership Agreement provisions, etc.)	The Bahamas
Services (including Information Technology and Telecommunications)	Antigua and Barbuda
Agriculture and Agricultural Diversification and Food Security (including RTP)	Guyana
Security (Drugs and Illicit Arms)	Trinidad and Tobago
Transport (Maritime and Aviation)	Haiti
Labour (including intra-community movement of skills)	Dominica
Sustainable Development including Environment and Disaster Management*)	Belize
Community Development and Cultural Co-operation (including Culture, Gender, Youth and Sport)	Suriname
Justice and Governance	Saint Lucia
Bananas	St Vincent and the Grenadines

*Montserrat will work closely with Belize given its special interest in disaster management.

ii) Caribbean Court of Justice

Special Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: 28th – 31st October 1992

A CARICOM Court: Progress Noted

“The Heads of Government noted that progress had already been made towards the establishment of a Caribbean Court of Appeal as the final appellate court for appeals from the courts of Member States. The Heads of Government considered the question of a CARICOM Court vested with original jurisdiction in matters arising under the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, including authority to issue orders facilitating compliance with CARICOM decisions. They agreed that this matter of the original jurisdiction of the CARICOM Court required further study, with a view to determining a position on it at their next regular meeting.”

**19th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June – 4th July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia**

Establishment of the Caribbean Court of Justice (The Supreme Court): Jurisdiction, Interpretation, Application

“Heads of Government adopted, in principle, the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Supreme Court, under the new appellation of the Caribbean Court of Justice. The Court of Justice is to be invested, inter alia, with original jurisdiction in respect of the interpretation and application of the Treaty of Chaguaramas.

The Conference recognised that constitutional requirements would constrain some Member States from participating initially in the appellate function of the Court and expressed the

desire that sometime in the near future, this vital CARICOM Institution would be able to perform this function for all CARICOM Member States.

With particular reference to the differences in legal systems among Member States, especially with regard to Suriname which has expressed its general support for the establishment of the Court, Heads of Government agreed to establish a Working Group to consider the differences in legal systems and make recommendations on how the eventual participation of Suriname can be achieved.

Heads expect that all the remaining work will be completed to permit the final decisions to be taken at the 10th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference.”

**20th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

Caribbean Court of Justice: Programme of Public Education

“Heads of Government approved the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice. They mandated the establishment of a Preparatory Committee comprising the Attorneys General of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago, assisted by Chief Parliamentary Counsels and Supreme Court Registrars, and representatives of the Council of Legal Education and the CARICOM Secretariat. The Preparatory Committee is charged with the responsibility of developing and implementing a programme of public education within the Caribbean Community, and making appropriate arrangements for the inauguration of the Caribbean Court of Justice prior to the establishment of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.”

7th Special Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 26th – 27th October 1999, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago

Caribbean Court of Justice: Centrality to Regional Institutional Structure

“Heads of Government underscored the centrality of the Caribbean Court of Justice in the institutional structures of the Community, including its importance to the successful functioning of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. They noted the progress in the arrangements for establishing the Court and welcomed the assurance of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago that the accommodation and other related facilities would be ready by October 2000.

They decided to mount a regional education and public awareness campaign to sensitise all members of civil society about the role and function of the Court.

Heads of Government also mandated the Secretariat to consider the measures required for Haiti and Suriname, both of which have civil law systems as against the common law systems of the rest of the Member States of the Caribbean Community, to participate in the Caribbean Court of Justice.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

Caribbean Court of Justice: Strengthening Public Consensus

“Heads of Government deliberated on the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice and determined that the Agreement would be signed by all Member States before the end of the year at a special ceremony convened for the purpose in Port-of-Spain where the Headquarters of the Court is to be located. They also decided that the public education programme relating to the Court should be intensified during the period before and after the signing of the Agreement in order to strengthen the public consensus on the Court. Heads of Government also

established a Sub-Committee under the Chairmanship of the Prime Minister of Saint Lucia to supervise the finalisation of the instruments relating to the establishment of the Court. They also endorsed a proposal of the Legal Affairs Committee to convene, before 15 August 2000, a Meeting of Presidents of Bar and Law Associations of the Community to consider further proposals for enhancing the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice. Heads of Government agreed that the signing of the Agreement would signal the commencement of the period during which legal and constitutional arrangements would be put in place for ratification and implementation of the Agreement.”

12th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 14th – 15th February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Signing of the Agreement to Establish the Caribbean Court of Justice: Historic Occasion

“The Heads of Government signed the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice at the Ceremonial Opening of the Conference. The historic signing marked another milestone by the Members of the Community in asserting their sovereignty.

Heads of Government asserted that the Court is an integral component for the efficient functioning of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy and is a unique institution in the development of international law, being on the one hand a municipal court of last resort, and on the other, an international tribunal, interpreting and applying rules of international law as these relate to the Treaty of Chaguaramas.”

iii) Association of Caribbean States (ACS)

**14th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas**

ACS: Increasing Opportunities for Economic Developments

“Against the background of steady progress in the development of relations between the Community and Latin America, Heads of Government reaffirmed their confidence in the potential benefit to the entire Region of the creation of the Association of Caribbean States. Heads of Government were convinced that with the creation of the Association of Caribbean States, the Community would be strengthened by the greater membership of the Association, and would have far greater opportunities for economic development through increased bargaining power and an enlarged economic space.

The Meeting reviewed the issues involved in the establishment of the Association. They expressed their satisfaction at the response to the concept by the potential membership; and with the expressions of support that have been forthcoming from regional and international funding agencies.”

**15th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados**

ACS: Draft Convention

“Heads of Government expressed their great satisfaction that the text of a Draft Convention establishing an Association of Caribbean States (ACS), an association originally proposed by the West Indian Commission, was initialled by the parties in Caracas, Venezuela on 29 June 1994.

They were pleased that arrangements for the establishment of the ACS had been vigorously pursued by the Community in accordance with the decision adopted by the Conference at its Fourth Inter-Sessional Meeting in Dominica in 1993. Heads of Government are therefore looking forward to the signing of the Convention later this month which will launch new opportunities for the

pursuit of collective initiatives by 40 states, countries and territories, comprising some 200 million people, united by the waters of the Caribbean.

They noted that the Association will allow the wider Caribbean region a greater potential for more adequately serving the interests of the region in the areas of economic integration and functional co-operation, and would rely on wider mutual support of existing sub-regional integration and co-operation mechanisms, and the involvement of the social partners in its activities.

Heads of Government agreed to support Trinidad and Tobago as the site for the Headquarters of the Association of Caribbean States and accepted an offer from the Government of Columbia to host the ceremony for the signing of the Convention establishing the Association of Caribbean States.”

**16th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana**

**The Establishment of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS):
Pace of Ratification Quickened**

“Heads of Government welcomed the further progress made toward the establishment of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), including the quickened pace of ratification of the ACS Convention, noting that Instruments of Ratification had now been deposited by twelve CARICOM Member States. They looked forward to the early entry into force of the Convention and the convening of the First Meeting of the Ministerial Council of the Association.

The formal establishment of the ACS will mark the culmination of an initiative that was developed and advanced by CARICOM, with the support of other Caribbean States, countries and

territories and usher in a new era of co-operation among them, obliterating the separateness of the past.”

iv) Regional Negotiating Machinery

**18th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June - 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

RNM: Early Days

“Heads of Government received the first progress report on the activities of the Regional Negotiating Machinery established to co-ordinate the Region’s external negotiations. The priority areas of focus are the FTAA, Post Lomé IV ACP-EU Relations; the non-economic initiatives of the Miami Summit, including the Second Summit, and the World Trade Organisation negotiations. The Regional Negotiating Machinery effectively established in April 1997 has as its Chief Negotiator, Sir Shridath Ramphal. Heads of Government welcomed the efforts towards the consolidation, staffing and other logistical aspects of the Regional Negotiating Machinery. Noting the financial requirements for the first year of operations of the Regional Negotiating Machinery, Heads of Government agreed to fulfil their obligations and acknowledged with appreciation the support to be provided by the Caribbean Development Bank and the Commonwealth Secretariat as well as that pledged by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Heads of Government also welcomed the offer by the Government of Barbados to provide accommodation and facilities for the small Technical Unit which would support the work of the Regional Negotiating Machinery.”

**19th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June - 4th July 1998, Castries, St. Lucia**

RNM: Role, Functions, Responsibilities

“Heads of Government reaffirmed their earlier decisions regarding the role, functions and responsibilities of the Regional Negotiating Machinery and specifically agreed to a number of recommendations from the Meeting of the Bureau in Santiago, Chile in April 1998 – including confirmation of the arrangements for the special responsibilities of Barbados for RNM finances.

The Heads of Government also endorsed the broad thrust of the proposals of the Chief Negotiator in his paper to the Conference – “External Economic Negotiations’: The Next Phase – while remitting to the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on External Negotiations a number of specific recommendations on the detailed arrangements set out in its Annexes.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd - 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

External Economic Negotiations: Existing Trends and Future Development

“Heads of Government welcomed the presentation by the Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM) of strategic approaches for CARICOM as it enters the second stage of external negotiations over the period 2002-2005. The presentation included a broad overview of existing trends as well as projections of future developments. Heads of Government were reminded of the inter-relatedness of the several negotiations and the vicissitudes of global trends and developments, many of which posed serious threats to the future development of the Region.

Heads of Government were informed of approaches to alternative trade arrangements with the European Union, the strategy for the next phase of the FTAA negotiations, and of the unfolding negotiations in the World Trade Organisation. They emphasised the need for sustained vigilance by the Region in securing the implementation of beneficial agreements already negotiated and for more vigorous action by the regional private sector, both in this regard and generally.

Heads of Government looked forward to further examination of these issues at an early meeting of the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on External Negotiations.”

12th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 14th – 16th February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

RNM: Preparing for Global Negotiations

“Heads of Government in keeping with their decision at their January 2001 Special Meeting in Montego Bay, undertook a preliminary review of the RNM, particularly in light of recent changes in its staffing and of the necessity to ensure its continued effective functioning in the face of intensified negotiations.

They expressed their full satisfaction and reaffirmed their commitment to the RNM.

They also commended the Chief Negotiator and his team on their sterling performance on behalf of the Region, in undertaking the first phase of the post-Lomé negotiations and in the ongoing FTAA and WTO negotiations. Heads of Government unanimously and unequivocally pledged their support for the continuation of the work of the RNM and committed themselves to its strengthening in order to better equip it to serve the interest of the region in several complex negotiations now ongoing.

They expressed gratitude for the support given to the RNM by friendly countries and Regional and International Institutions and urged their continuing support.

They also expressed their desire for the development of closer and more effective collaboration between the RNM, the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) and the Secretariat.

Against this background, Heads of Government agreed on specific arrangements for the RNM's 2001-2002 budget and decided on certain staff appointments.”³⁹

v) Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians (ACCP)

**10th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 7th July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada**

ACCP: Proposal for Establishment

“Heads of Government welcomed the proposal put forward by Barbados for the establishment of an Assembly of Caribbean Parliamentarians as an important and a new dimension to the regional integration movement.

The Heads agreed that the creation of the Assembly would be an important means of involving the peoples of CARICOM more fully in the integration process through their parliamentary representatives. It would serve as a catalyst in shaping regional public opinion, giving direction to the integration movement and preparing the Caribbean for the twenty-first century. They stressed, however, that the Assembly would be a deliberative body with no legislative powers and that it would in no way impinge upon the sovereignty and constitutional independence of Member States, but would provide an important new forum for the discussion of regional issues.

In order to advance arrangements for the establishment of the Assembly, Conference appointed a Ministerial Committee of representatives from Antigua and Barbuda, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Trinidad and Tobago to join Barbados in examining and making

³⁹ The RNM has since been restructured. This decision was taken at the 22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community which was held in Nassau, The Bahamas from 3rd – 6th July 2001. As a result of the restructuring, Ambassador Richard Bernal has been appointed Director-General of the RNM. His position represents a combination of the previous posts of Chief Negotiator and Chief Technical Adviser.

recommendations concerning the functioning of the Assembly, bearing in mind the need to keep costs to a minimum.

The Heads of Government congratulated Barbados on the 350th anniversary of the establishment of its Parliament and accepted its offer to host the Inaugural Meeting of the Assembly.”

**14th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas**

ACCP: Early Ratification Urged

“Heads of Government also welcomed the fact that there were now eight signatories and two ratifications to the Agreement to establish the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians. They urged the early completion of the ratification process so that the first meeting of the Assembly could be convened in Barbados during this year. They considered that the deliberations of the Assembly would contribute to a greater involvement in and a better understanding of the integration process.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

ACCP is Launched

“Heads of Government welcomed with satisfaction the convening of the Inaugural Meeting of the Assembly of Caribbean Parliamentarians (ACCP) which was held in Barbados on 27 May 1996. They also welcomed the fact that the Governments of Montserrat and St. Vincent and the Grenadines had signed during the course of the Conference, the Agreement for the establishment of an Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians.”

- **The New Economic Situation**

- i) **General Economic Environment**

14th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

Regional Trade Blocs, Volatility and Uncertainty

“Heads of Government, mindful of the rapidly changing environment, the strengthening of regional trade blocs and the extremely high degree of uncertainty and volatility in the international trade and financial markets, agreed that it was imperative for the region to act in concert to meet the challenges inherent in the new situation.

Heads of Government also recognised the close inter-relationship between an effective external economic strategy and the internal strategies for the development of the Single Market and for monetary and financial co-operation and integration.

They therefore approved a broad strategy and guidelines for the conduct of international economic and trade negotiations for CARICOM countries. In addition, they identified a team of Heads of Government, including the Heads of Government with specific responsibilities for external negotiations, for the Single Market and for Monetary Union, and high level officials from the Regional organisations to assume responsibility for co-ordinating and implementing the Region’s External Programme.

Heads of Government recognised that the efforts to negotiate access to external markets and resources, and to adjust to changing market conditions should proceed in tandem with the implementation of measures designed to encourage enhanced productivity and the production of competitive exports as well as to generate higher reform, liberalisation and restructuring of their

economies. The effectiveness of these efforts and the ability to sustain them is significantly constrained by the high debt servicing obligations and reduced inflows of resources from institutions such as the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank. They expressed appreciation for the reduction in the bilateral debt of some of the member States but remained concerned that an overall strategy for dealing with the debt of middle-income countries and the debt to the multilateral financial institutions has not yet been found.

They reviewed the situation relating to the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which is expected to come into force in January 1994. The Heads of Government agreed to work towards ensuring that adequate transitional arrangements are made to avoid any adverse impact on trade, employment and investment opportunities in Caribbean countries.

With respect to relations with the European Community, the Heads of Government observed that the arrangements to create the Single European Market had been virtually completed. In the process the Region's trade in bananas had come under severe threat from a variety of quarters with serious consequences for the future viability of the industry.

Heads of Government expressed concern and disappointment at the process utilised within the GATT to examine the arrangements for the marketing of bananas in the EC Member States markets and the results emanating from that process which could have serious implications for the entire Lomé arrangements. They recalled that ACP banana exports account for only 16 per cent of the total European market and only 3 per cent of the world market. They viewed with extreme concern further initiatives within the GATT by Latin American Countries and observed that these current initiatives could seriously undermine the declared objective by the Central America and the Caribbean Community to build closer co-operation among themselves. They called on all the parties concerned to give full recognition to the exceptional circumstances of the CARICOM and

other ACP producers and to ensure that obligations enshrined in the Lomé Convention are fully honoured.

Heads of Government agreed to encourage ACP states, contracting parties to the GATT, to signify their interest in the matter to the GATT where this has not already been done and attend and participate in the deliberations on the findings of the GATT panel at the next meeting of the Council to be held on 21-22 July 1993.

Heads of Government welcomed the decision of the European Court of Justice in relation to European Community's new arrangements for the marketing of Bananas within the Single European Market. They, however, lamented the fact that financial and technical assistance measures, for ACP traditional suppliers proposed in the relevant Community's Regulation, have not yet been approved. They were of the opinion that failure to approve and implement such measures as a matter of urgency would result in additional hardships for ACP traditional suppliers to the European market.

Heads of Government observed that in the new arrangements for the marketing of Bananas in Europe which entered into force from 1 July 1993, there are elements which required urgent review.

Heads of Government also called on the Community to put in place appropriate measures to ensure that the amendments to the Community Agricultural Policy (CAP) and the developments in the GATT, do not adversely affect the sugar industry in the Caribbean and the wider ACP.

Heads of Government expressed their concern at the inadequacies of resources under Lomé IV for meeting the entitlement to STABEX transfers. They regard the failure to apply a minimum threshold below which transfer bases and transfer amounts would not be reduced as placing

LDLICs in a worse position under Lomé IV than they were under Lomé III. They therefore called on the European Community and its Member States to make an exceptional effort not limited to the resources of the Convention to ensure that the minimum threshold of 2 million ECUs for island countries be applied for the 1990, 1991 and 1992 years of application and for the life of the Lomé IV Convention.

Heads of Government observed that the ACP and EC would soon begin a mid-term of the Lomé IV Convention. They expressed grave concern at the slowness in the process of accessing and utilising the financial resources for Caribbean region projects under the first Financial Protocol of the Convention. They recognised that the difficulty arises, in part, from the inadequacy of the level of resources to meet the expanded needs of the Caribbean region with the addition of Haiti and the Dominican Republic to the Caribbean ACP Group. They requested the Team responsible for the Region's External Economic Relations Programme to bring the Region's concerns in this regard to the attention of the Community.

Heads of Government were encouraged by the information from the Summit of the Group of Seven on the possible resolution of some longstanding trade difficulties. They trust that these developments will lead to a reduction in the contradictions between the domestic and international trade policies of major trading nations and greater understanding of the vulnerability of some products of developing countries. They expressed the hope that these developments at the G-7 Summit will lead to a re-opening of international negotiations in the GATT towards a global regime which takes account of the concerns of all States.

It was against this background that the Heads of Government expressed their determination to ensure that the Community acted with despatch on the broad range of issues confronting the Region.”

Economic Environment: Structural and Cyclical Changes

“The Heads of Government recognised that the Meeting of the Conference had been convened against the backdrop of an international economic environment which, due to ongoing profound structural and cyclical changes, presented the Region with a number of opportunities and significant challenges.

They noted that the external economic environment was becoming increasingly characterised by the continuing globalisation of production, investment and trade, the integration of world markets to which impetus had been given by the recently concluded Uruguay Round of Multilateral Trade Negotiations (MTNs), and the consolidation of regional integration movements, in particular, the North American Free Trade Area (NAFTA) and the European Single Market.

The Heads of Government recognised the urgency of stressing in international fora that fair trade is critical to small economies in this new global economic environment. In this regard, significant developments within CARICOM were the establishment of formal trade and co-operation relations between CARICOM and other sub-regional processes, and the imminent establishment of a CARICOM-sponsored Association of Caribbean States to advance economic integration and functional co-operation.

The Heads of Government recognised that a collaborative effort was necessary to confront the changes being forced upon the Region. In this context, they called for the establishment of a Special Development Fund by Multilateral Financial Institutions, such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank, with the participation

of Donor Countries, to assist CARICOM countries to effect a lasting transformation of their economies.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

The Global Context: Challenges and Opportunities

“Heads of Government were acutely aware that their Meeting was taking place against the backdrop of an international environment which presented an ever increasing number of complex challenges. It was therefore imperative for the Region to devise a qualitatively different approach to international economic and political issues and to develop a more effective decision-making capacity in order to promote its prosperity.

The new approach would need to recognise that as a result of globalisation, production units and capital traversed the globe in response only to market forces. In addition, the intensification of regionalism had given rise to the establishment of huge trading blocs as nations, both in keeping with the economic globalisation process and also in defence against it, seek to integrate their economies on a scale hitherto unknown. The communications revolution had been an important factor in the dramatic and rapid transformation of the structure of the world economy.”

ii) The Single Market and Economy

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

A Single Integrated Common Market: The First Steps

“Heads of Government reviewed the progress made to date in the implementation of the Grand Anse Declaration and Work Programme – which embodies the steps agreed on by Conference last year at its Meeting in Grenada towards the creation of a Single CARICOM Market. Heads of Government in their adherence to this objective took final decisions on the major outstanding instruments of the Common External Tariff (CET) and Rules of Origin and welcomed the advances made towards the establishment of a Regional Stock Exchange. They reiterated the commitment of their Governments to have the legislative and other measures completed in sufficient time to meet the implementation date of January 1, 1991.

In light of the importance attached to the creation of a Single CARICOM Market, Heads of Government affirmed the need for a fully unified CARICOM External Tariff to enable the establishment and effective functioning of the Single Market by the agreed deadline of January 1, 1994.

Heads of Government announced that from January 1, 1991, the three existing stock exchanges in the Region would begin the process of cross listing and cross trading of securities. They expressed satisfaction at the steps taken by these Member States towards the removal of obstacles to the free movement of intra-regional capital and looked forward to the extension of the arrangements to include other Member States and to further action in the development of the Regional Capital Market.

They decided to accelerate the implementation process by agreeing to create a new regional position of CARICOM Commissioner to commence functioning by 1st October, 1990. The CARICOM Commissioner is to work closely with the individual Member States and the CARICOM Secretariat in ensuring the effective and urgent implementation of all the measures

agreed on within the timetable set. The CARICOM Commissioner is to be chosen from among CARICOM nationals with extensive knowledge in CARICOM affairs and wide experience of other integration arrangements.”

**12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 4th July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis**

A Single Market and Economy: The Pace Picks Up

“Heads of Government, in reviewing the progress made towards the implementation of the measures identified in the Grand Anse Declaration and Work Programme for the Advancement of the Integration Movement, welcomed the commencement of cross listing and cross trading of securities on the stock exchanges of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago as a first step towards the development of a full regional capital market. As a further step towards increasing the flow of capital throughout the Region, they agreed in principle to proposals which were before them for the establishment of a Caribbean Investment Fund.

Heads of Government, however, expressed regret that the implementation of the Common External Tariff (CET) and the CARICOM Rules of Origin was behind schedule, with only seven of the twelve Common Market States having implemented the CET to date, and eight having ratified the Revised Rules of Origin. They noted and endorsed a new target date of 1st October, 1991, set by the Common Market Council, for the simultaneous introduction of these two instruments. Heads of Government urged that this new deadline be met since these instruments constitute an integral part of the creation of a CARICOM Single Market and Economy.

Heads of Government endorse the decision of the Thirty-seventh Meeting of the Common Market Council to convene a Special Ministerial Meeting in October 1991, to consider the

measures outstanding for the liberalisation of intra-CARICOM trade, and the programme for the introduction of a CARICOM Single Market and Economy.”

**13th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29th June – 2nd July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago**

Single Market and Economy: Implementing the Idea

“Heads of Government were gratified that under the leadership of the Prime Minister of Barbados, emphasis continues to be placed by Governments within the Community on the movement towards the creation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. While regretting the slight decline in intra-regional trade indicated for 1991, they nevertheless remained confident that with the progressive establishment of all the elements of the Single Market, a framework would have been created within which intra-regional and extra-regional trade can be stimulated. In addition, they also approved the Buy-Caribbean Programme and adopted the Buy-Caribbean Resolution as attached.

In this regard Heads of Government, recalling the lead that they had already given in the Grand Anse Declaration, registered their acceptance and endorsement of the main elements that comprise the CARICOM Single Market and Economy as well as the schedule for its implementation. In view of the developments in the international economy, they approved a set of measures designed to move the process forward in a concerted and integrated manner.

They were particularly encouraged by the progress that had been made, under the leadership of the Prime Minister of Jamaica in developing arrangements for the establishment of a regional CARICOM Investment Fund which they hope, will in due course take its place as a strategic component in the regional institutional infrastructure for the free movement of capital.”

4th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 22nd – 23rd March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

Integrating the Regional Market: Removing All Barriers to Intra-Regional Trade

“The Heads of Government noted that the revised Common External Tariff and the Rules of Origin would be introduced by 30th June, 1993, and that all remaining barriers to intra-regional trade should also be removed by this date thus contributing significantly to creating a Single Market. They agreed that efforts to integrate the regional market for goods were proceeding according to schedule. However, they agreed that urgent action was needed in respect of the integration of services and that the introduction of the arrangements for the free movement of labour and capital would have to be accelerated in order to achieve the objective of the establishment of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy. To this end, they agreed to co-operate fully in facilitating this process.”

**15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados**

**Single Market and Economy:
Concern over Slow Progress**

“Heads of Government reviewed the progress towards the establishment of the Single Market and Economy. They expressed their concern at the slow pace of progress with the execution of the work programme of the Single Market and Economy which was adopted at the Third Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference in Kingston, Jamaica, in February 1992, and the rate of implementation of decisions by Member States. They emphasised the need for the work on the Single Market and Economy to be accorded high priority at both the national and regional levels.

Heads of Government stressed that in the context of the Single Market and Economy, it was imperative that there be additional emphasis on intra-regional trade.

Heads of Government called for an intensified effort to implement the agreed work programme. They agreed that a report would be presented to the Sixth Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference whose Agenda would focus on issues related to the Single Market and Economy.”

12th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 14th – 16th February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

**Implementation of the Single Market and Economy:
Taking Advantage of Opportunities**

“With the revised Treaty of Chaguaramas expected to be finalised by the third quarter of 2001, Heads of Government directed that each Member State and each Ministerial Council must give priority to implementation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). This was seen as being necessary to ensure that the benefits to be derived from the strengthening of the Region’s production and competitiveness were fully realised. Implementation of the CSME would enable the Region to take advantage of the opportunities created by hemispheric and global liberalisation.

Heads of Government accepted the recommendations from the Second Special Consultation on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy held in Barbados on 20 to 21 November 2000. They highlighted in particular, the measures to be implemented during 2001. Critical among these measures is the enactment of national legislation to give effect to the free movement of university graduates, artistes, sports persons, musicians and media workers and the transfer of Social Security benefits; the establishment of the programmes for the removal among Member States of restrictions on the right of establishment, the provision of services and the movement of capital; the establishment of national and regional mechanisms for the mutual recognition of qualifications and training; the establishment of the CARICOM Regional

Organisation for Quality and Standards (CROSQ) and agreement on outstanding issues relating to hassle-free travel including travel documents and forms.

Heads of Government accorded particular attention to the supporting institutional arrangements at the national and regional levels required to ensure implementation. They agreed that at the national level, Member States would establish Inter-Ministerial Consultative Committees and would encourage the establishment of business and labour advisory committees. They established a Prime-Ministerial Sub-Committee for the CSME to give impetus to its establishment and operation. They agreed that the Prime-Ministerial Sub-Committee would be supported by a Technical Advisory Council comprising members from regional institutions and civil society, private sector and labour organisations and would be serviced by an expanded and restructured Single Market and Economy Unit in the Secretariat.

Heads of Government mandated that the public education programme for the CSME can be intensified with a view to heightening the level of popular understanding of and support for the CSME throughout the entire Region.”

**22nd Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 2001, Nassau, Bahamas**

**Establishment of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME):
Intensification of Public Education**

“Heads of Government commended the collaborative efforts of the Official and Ministerial bodies in completing the revision of the Treaty of Chaguaramas (The Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community) which now integrates the nine Protocols making provision for the free movement of persons, capital and services and the right of establishment. They expressed their satisfaction that the Revised Treaty allows for the subsequent inclusion in the Treaty, by way of

additional Protocols, of new issues such as e-commerce, government procurement, trade in goods from free zones, free circulation of goods and the rights contingent on the free movement of persons. They noted that technical work has already started towards this end.

Heads of Government urged an intensification of the public education programme to promote the necessary shift in the mind set of the people of the Region, from the limits of national boundaries to the resources of the Region as a whole. They also undertook to ensure the completion of the basic complementary legal and other actions at the national level to give effect to their regional commitments, particularly relating to the free movement of the agreed categories of persons, namely university graduates, artistes, musicians, sports persons and media personnel, and to the CARICOM agreements on social security and the avoidance of double taxation.

Heads of Government confirmed their intention to inaugurate the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) on 9th July, 2001, in The Bahamas, and to give their early attention to the creation of the new support mechanisms for the CSME, including a Committee of Officials, the Technical Advisory Council comprising representation from the stakeholders across civil society, and the specialised Caribbean Community Secretariat Single Market and Economy Unit, which will be based in Barbados until the completion of the CARICOM Headquarters building in Guyana.

A number of Heads of Government signed the ***Revised Treaty of Chaguramas establishing the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.***”

Elements of the Single Economic Space

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

Free Movement of Peoples: Freer Intra-Regional Movement

“Heads of Government endorsed “Programme AFFIRM – Arrangements for Freer Intra-Regional Movement – which was developed in accordance with the decisions taken at Grand Anse. This Programme is designed to facilitate freer intra-regional movement of CARICOM peoples for purposes of travel and work.

The Programme provides, among other things, for CARICOM nationals travelling in the Region to be given the option of presenting satisfactory forms of identification other than passports. It also calls for the waiver of work permit requirements for professional and skilled CARICOM nationals working in the areas of the visual and performing arts, sports and the media to participate in regional events.”

3rd Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

Free Movement of Skills: Guyana enacts Legislation

“With regard to the area of free movement of skills, in which the President of Guyana was asked to provide leadership, the Heads noted the enactment of legislation by the Government of Guyana introducing arrangements with effect from March 30, 1992 allowing free entry of UWI graduates into that country to live and work. They noted that a number of other Member States have signified positively their intention to implement the proposal of the President of Guyana that as a first step in the free movement of skills, the necessary national measures to be immediately instituted to allow graduates of the UWI and the University of Guyana to move freely within the Region to live and work. Member States also expressed their commitment to implement the measures in respect of entertainment and media workers after the clarification of some issues of definition that have arisen.”

Travelling in the Region: Facilitating Greater Contacts

“Heads of Government were pleased that, under the leadership of the Prime Minister of Grenada, and since they last reviewed the matter of travelling in the Region at their Inter-Sessional Meeting held in Jamaica in February 1992, most Member States had taken steps to facilitate travel by CARICOM nationals within the Region, through the acceptance of forms of identification other than passports and through the establishment of common lines of entry for citizens and residents of CARICOM States. Heads of Government also noted that the few remaining States which have already agreed in principle to, but had not yet implemented these measures, have given an undertaking to do so shortly.

Heads of Government also noted plans by the Secretariat to convene a Meeting in Trinidad and Tobago of Chief Immigration and Customs Officers to develop strategies to support policies and arrangements for easing the problems of intra-regional travel. They looked forward to the development and implementation of schemes, with the involvement of the private sector, for the promotion of youth exchange visits within the Community, which they are confident could only lead to the fostering of closer ties among the people of the Region.”

Free Movement of Skills: Slow Progress

“Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to the principle of Free Movement of Skills in the Region. They complimented President Hugh Desmond Hoyte of Guyana on the work he had done towards the facilitation of free movement of skills in the Region. They regretted the slow pace of progress toward this goal and invited President Hoyte to continue his efforts on the matter through appropriate consultations.”

Monetary Union: Progress Made

“Heads of Government received a Report from the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago on progress made towards monetary integration. The Report reviewed the current macro-economic environment and performance of the various Member States and noted the differences therein and the need for adjustment and stabilisation in some countries. The Report also identified the costs and benefits involved in the process.

They noted that the Report however proposed that the movement towards monetary integration should take place in three phases with the goal of attaining full union by the year 2000. The first phase would involve the co-ordination of monetary policies and the movement towards inter-regional currency convertibility. This stage would be initiated with the formalisation of a Council of Central Bank Governors. Stage two would require the maintenance of parities within an agreed band by those countries which have not yet achieved macro-economic stability.

At stage three, on agreement by the Heads of Government, a Caribbean Monetary Authority would be established with power to issue a single currency. This Authority would be accountable to a Council of Ministers of Finance.

Heads of Government noted the report and endorsed the approach towards the achievement of monetary union.”

**15th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados**

Travelling in the Region:

“Heads of Government received the Report from the leader of the delegation of Grenada, the country with lead responsibility for the promotion of travelling in the Region. They noted that common lines for citizens, residents and CARICOM nationals at international ports of entry has

been implemented in eleven Member States, and that eight Member States had implemented the decisions which allow CARICOM nationals to use forms of identification other than passports to enter those Member States.

Heads of Government urged those Member States which had not adopted the necessary measures to facilitate hassle-free travel in the Region to do so expeditiously.

Free Movement of University Graduates:

Heads of Government received the report of the President of Guyana on efforts towards implementing the free movement of skills in the Region. They noted with satisfaction that several Member States were in the process of implementing the decision of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference with respect to the free movement of skills.

They accepted the recommendation by the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies that CARICOM nationals who are graduates of the University of the Virgin Islands should be recognised on an equal footing with their counterparts of the UWI and the University of Guyana for the purpose of implementing the decisions affecting the free movement of such graduates.

6th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 16th – 17th February 1995, Belize City, Belize

Movement of Skilled Persons: Removal of Work Permit Requirement

“Heads of Government agreed that the arrangement to permit graduates of the University of the West Indies, University of Guyana and the University of the Virgin Islands to enter and work in their territories without the requirement of a Work Permit was a necessary first step in this process of the movement of graduates and skilled persons. They agreed that this right should be less discriminatory, and accordingly mandated the Secretariat to examine the situation in respect

of CARICOM nationals from other Universities, and to report to the Sixteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government.”

iii) Environment and Development

**10th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 7th July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada**

Environment: A Factor in Development

“Heads of Government welcomed the fact that the First Meeting of CARICOM Ministers responsible for the Environment was held during 31st May to 2nd June, 1989, given the significance of environmental concerns and the important relationship between Environment and Development. They endorsed the decisions taken by the Ministerial Conference for more effective planning, co-ordination and management of our environmental resources embodied in the Port-of-Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment.”

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July to 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

Management of the Environment: Supporting Development

“Heads of Government reiterated their commitment to the proper management, protection and utilisation of the environment in support of development. They agreed that international environmental efforts should recognise the sovereignty of States and the responsibility of all peoples and Governments to preserve the common ecological heritage of mankind.

They welcomed the commitment of the participants in the recent Economic Summit in Houston to respect the sovereign rights of States in support of the efforts to preserve and protect the global environment.

Heads of Government urged full participation by Member States in the forthcoming United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development in Brasilia in 1992, and in the Second World Climate Conference in Geneva later this year. They agreed that all CARICOM States should be parties to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean, and the Protocol concerning Co-operation in Combating Oil Spills in the Wider Caribbean. They supported the Environmental Action Plan for Latin America and the Caribbean.

They urged organisations such as the Commonwealth Secretariat and UNEP to continue to increase their support to small States such as those in CARICOM to facilitate their full and effective participation in the 1992 Conference and the follow-up thereto.

They noted that the Second CARICOM Ministerial Conference on the Environment to be held in Jamaica on September 1990 would review the progress made since the First Conference; that the Preparatory Meeting of Caribbean and Latin American Environment Ministers would take place in Trinidad and Tobago in October 1990; and that the development and strengthening of the Caribbean Environmental Health Institute continues.

They recorded their satisfaction with and endorsement of the Commonwealth-Government of Guyana Programme for Sustainable Tropical Forestry which they considered to be a practical example of linking the preservation of the environment with the need for sustainable development. They complimented the Government of Guyana on initiating the project and urged the international community to provide the required support for the early and effective implementation of the project.”

SECTION II

FUNCTIONAL CO-OPERATION

INTRODUCTION

- **Disaster Preparedness**
- **Drugs**
- **Security**
- **HIV/AIDS**
- **Cricket**
- **Culture**
- **Regional Air Transportation**
- **Education**
- **Tourism**

Functional Co-operation predates the Caribbean Community. There has been contact between the various peoples of the Region in various ways and in different forms. For example, organisations which brought the civil servants of the Region and lawyers have existed long before functional co-operation formalised this kind of exchange. These exchanges have served to strengthen the bonds which exist between the Caribbean peoples in a signal way. These bonds of unity at this level in the eyes of at least one of the founding fathers of the Community has brought about a deeper integration than is generally recognised.

Functional co-operation has always occurred at different levels. Success has been particularly outstanding in the field of education. The University of the West Indies (UWI) which also pre-dates CARICOM has been an outstanding regional achievement. Many of the graduates of this institution who are now in positions of leadership have passed through its hallowed halls. The University is also, as it was at the beginning of the Community itself, active in the research

and information area which have relevance to the development of the Community. Indeed, it may be said that UWI is not only integral to the education network of the region but also pivotal to the further expansion of the Community.

The Caribbean Examinations Council (CXC) has established a regional system of examinations and its impact in the Member States of the Community has been great. UWI, which continues to be an impressive regional institution, and the expanding influence of the CXC will ensure the development and increase in quality of human resources.

Culture and sports have also brought great credit to the Community. Increasingly the Region has won greater recognition for its excellence in the area of culture. It is in the field of literature in particular, that the Region has shown the world that it is second to none. The Region has already caused astonishment at producing some of the finest cricketers from a population of fewer than six million people. In similar terms, it has caused the pundits to think hard about the fact that it has been able from this very small population to produce Nobel Prize winners in the field of literature and economics. As it has won great recognition and respect in the field of diplomacy, so the Region has garnered acclaim in the area of culture. Apart from its prowess in literature, the Region has also entered the domain of music with great confidence and has forced the world to pay attention to what it has to offer. Caribbean calypso, reggae and steelband music are now very much part of the global music scene.

In the Montego Bay Declaration, the leadership of the Community recognised the importance that sports has made in gaining recognition to the Region. This is particularly so in the field of cricket. As a great Caribbean writer and thinker, C. L. R. James has mentioned. The Caribbean has used bat and ball to clear the way into the comity of nations. Because cricket is so much enmeshed in the activities relevant to nation building, the development of cricket has come

to be seen as part of the development of the Region. Hence the rather interesting spectacle of Caribbean leaders deliberating on a matter that other Heads of State would rather leave to lesser officials. Cricket is too important a matter in the Caribbean to be left to cricketers only. These are some of the areas in which the Community has done very well in the sphere of functional co-operation. Work continues apace in the fields of health, agriculture and disaster preparedness for example. But generally, functional co-operation has played a particularly effective role in knitting together the threads that make up the fabric of Caribbean togetherness. Lives are touched on a daily basis in this way. As the Report of the West Indian Commission has said: “The work continues and, almost imperceptibly it must sometimes seem, the Community’s presence is made more widely known and impinges on West Indian lives.”

- **Disaster Preparedness**

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, 13th – 17th January 1964, Kingston, Jamaica

Mutual Assistance in Disaster: A Sub-Committee Reports

“The Conference accepted the report of the sub-committee which was set up to report on the Trinidad and Tobago proposals in regard to Mutual Assistance in the event of Disaster. The sub-committee reported as follows:

- (1) There should be two agencies to co-ordinate action in connection with emergency relief measures-
 - (i) In Jamaica to serve Turks and Caicos Islands, Cayman Islands and British Honduras;
 - (ii) In Trinidad to serve Trinidad and Tobago, British Guiana, Barbados and the Leeward and Windward Islands. There should be close consultation and co-operation between these two agencies. Machinery should be set up for the purpose.

- (2) The Trinidad and Tobago Government should set up its own Emergency Relief Organisation along the lines of the Organisations established in Barbados and Jamaica, and in this connection a representative of the Emergency Relief Organisation established in Barbados and Jamaica, should meet in Trinidad within a month to assist in setting up such an Organisation. The Windwards and Leewards should be encouraged to set up individually Emergency Relief Organisations along the lines established in Barbados.
- (3) The Trinidad and Tobago Government can make arrangements with the United States Authorities at Chaguaramas as to the type and extent of assistance which can be made available in the event of a disaster with respect to the territories named above.
- (4) In regard to the creation of a "Disaster Fund" by the United Nations, it was felt that in view of the complications, which are many and varied, i.e., the difficulty in asking for the Caribbean areas as a whole involving such countries as Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic, or separating the West Indian Islands from the other territories in the Caribbean; A Fund for disaster relief for the whole Caribbean area may be of such magnitude as to hinder establishment of the Fund. There was also the question as to what agency would allocate such a Fund, and the type of expenditure which should be met from the Fund. For these reasons it was decided that the representatives of Trinidad and Tobago and Jamaica at the United Nations should investigate the feasibility of the creation of such a fund, and should advise the Governments concerned as to what future action may be taken.
- (5) In regard to the question of stock-piling, it was agreed that this would not be practicable owing to the perishable nature of foodstuffs and deterioration that takes place in respect to clothing, bedding, etc.

It was the considered opinion of the Sub-Committee that in place of physical stock-piling, there should be standing arrangements with private merchants to carry liberal and adequate stocks to meet any emergencies created by disaster. Arrangements should also be worked out with the United States Red Cross Society so as to enable prompt distribution of supplies of preventive medicines, drugs and medicaments which might be sent by air to any disaster area.

The Committee recommends that participating Governments ensure that action is taken immediately so that adequate preparation can be made before the hurricane season.”

- **Drugs**

**6th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1st July – 9th July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados**

Drug Trafficking: Threat to the Security and Economy of Member States

“Heads of Government expressed grave concern over the increasing traffic in, and abuse of, narcotic substances which pose a serious threat to the economy and security of Member States and to the health and welfare of their people.

Recognising the regional dimension of the drug problem, they stressed the need for improved co-operation and consultation between regional and extra-regional law enforcement and social agencies; supported the mandate given to the Secretariat at the Eleventh Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs to collate information on drug trafficking, drug transshipment, drug abuse and rehabilitation in the Region; and urged individual Governments to strengthen the policing of seaports and airports in order to curtail their use as trans-shipment points for illegal drugs.”

**7th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1st July – 4th July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana**

Drug Trafficking: Continuing and Expanding Drug Problem

“Heads of Government expressed their growing concern at the increase in the illicit use of drugs and increased drug trafficking, including the trans-shipment of drugs through Member States. They noted the harmful effect of these illegal activities on the health, security, morality and general well-being of the Caribbean peoples.

Heads of Government pledged to intensify their individual and collective efforts in the elaboration and implementation of programmes of prevention, detention, eradication, prosecution, treatment and rehabilitation. They noted that the success of such programmes required the highest possible level of public awareness and of collaboration among agencies at the national and regional levels. They called on the CARICOM Secretariat to work closely with the OECS Secretariat and other regional agencies in the continued development and implementation of a regional approach.

They agreed to a request from the Government of Suriname for a close relationship between Suriname and the Caribbean Community on this matter.

Heads of Government also noted a number of initiatives aimed at galvanizing the efforts of the international community to remove the scourge of illicit drugs from contemporary life. In particular, they pledged the full and coordinated participation of the Caribbean Community in the work, including where possible the preparatory work, of the United Nations International Conference on Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Vienna in June 1987, the Inter-regional Meeting of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies in Vienna in July/August 1986 and the Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting in July/August 1986.

Heads of Government were conscious that Governments alone could not successfully tackle the problem. They therefore called for the widest possible participation of community leaders and groups in the fight to save present and future generations of Caribbean peoples from the hazards of illicit drugs.”

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

Drugs: Combating Production, Trafficking and Illicit Drugs

“Heads of Government welcomed the increased commitment of the international community to co-operation and collaboration in the effort to combat production, trafficking and abuse of illicit narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances. They further expressed special satisfaction at the growing international recognition of the importance of demand reduction in efforts to control both production and abuse.

Heads of Government discussed the importance of developing mechanisms to protect the regional and international banking and financial systems from subversion by the international drug traffickers. They committed their governments to supporting strategies being developed in this important area. They also took note of the active participation of a number of CARICOM States in the Aruba Drug/Money Laundering Conference in June 1990.

Heads of Government noted developments in respect of the establishment of the international Criminal Court and committed themselves to maintaining efforts in this regard.”

**12th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 4th July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts**

Establishment of a Regional Centre for Drug Law Enforcement Officers: A Proposal

“Heads of Government endorsed the proposal by the Government of Jamaica for the establishment of a Regional Training Centre for Drug Law Enforcement Officers working in the area of apprehension of users and traffickers of narcotics and psychotropic substances. They agreed that the development of this Project would be pursued as one of two or more possible regional centres for such training, for which the Region would support efforts for the mobilisation of international resources.

They also agreed that in the development of the project, care be taken to ensure that in its design and operation it extends and complements similar initiatives in train elsewhere in the

Region. To this end, the Regional High Level Ad Hoc Committee which Heads of Government established to monitor the development of the Regional Drug Abuse Abatement and Control Programme should be fully involved in finalising the details of the project.”

- **Security**

**5th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, Bahamas**

The Security of Small States

“The Heads of Government expressed their concern that the security of Small States continues to be seriously threatened. They observed that Small States were increasingly vulnerable to external aggression, manifested in traditional as well as new forms, and are being subjected to various forms of economic aggression, including the attempt of some States to impose extra-territorial jurisdiction.

Heads of Government renewed their commitment to the maintenance of the integrity of the Caribbean Community and of its Member States. They emphasised the need for continuing efforts within the Caribbean Community to identify and document the various forms of threat to the security of States in the Region. They took note of the Proposed study by the Commonwealth Secretariat on the security of Small States, and agreed on a procedure which would ensure that the particular needs of the States of the Caribbean Community should be adequately reflected in the study.

Heads of Government called for the early convening of the previously established Working Group to consider a unified approach to the question of economic aggression and the establishment of a scheme of mutual assistance.”

7th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

The Problems of Small States: Security, Sovereignty and Development

“Heads of Government welcomed the profound and wide-ranging examination into the vulnerability of Small States undertaken by a Commonwealth Study Group. The Group had examined the negative effect on the security, sovereignty and development of Small States resulting from the military, economic, administrative and other weaknesses inherent in their smallness. In the case of the Caribbean, Heads of Government were convinced that regional co-operation, optimal mobilisation of the Region’s human and natural resources and the full utilisation of its geographical and other advantages could help to secure for the people of the Region the continued strengthening of their independence, sovereignty and integrity. Heads of Government committed themselves once again to this and decided to continue their examinations of the measures proposed in the Report with a view to implementing those appropriate to the Region.”⁴⁰

3rd Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 26th February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Regional Security Scheme: Expanding Existing Regional Mechanism

“Heads of Government noted the progress made by the Ministerial Committee established to design a regional security scheme for the Caribbean Community. They endorsed the recommendations of the Ministerial Committee that the proposed regional security scheme should incorporate the existing Regional Security System for the Eastern Caribbean with links by means of co-operation agreements with other Member States of the Caribbean Community. They requested the Ministerial Committee to pursue its mandate in order to finalise the structure of and

⁴⁰ Further references to regional security can be found in Section IV

other arrangements for the operations of the expanded Regional Security Scheme for adoption by the Conference.”

**22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 2001, Nassau, Bahamas**

Regional Security Issues: Drug-Related Activities and Crime

“Heads of Government recognised the need for regional action on crime and security issues arising from the increasing drug related activities and other serious crimes in the Region. They expressed grave concern over the threats posed to the security and stability of the countries of the Region. They recognised that concerted and co-ordinated responses at the national, sub-regional and regional levels, building on existing machinery, will be required in order to bring about lasting and effective solutions.

Heads of Government agreed that they will devote special attention to the issues of crime and security at their Thirteenth Inter-Sessional Meeting in Belize in early 2002. To facilitate decisions, they agreed to establish a special Regional Task Force to analyse the fundamental causes of crime and security threats in the Region and to develop recommendations for consideration by Attorneys-General and Ministers responsible for National Security in advance of their Meeting in Belize, from 4 to 6 February, 2002.”

- **HIV/AIDS**

**21st Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent**

Escalating HIV/AIDS: The Leading Cause of Death in the Region

“Heads of Government expressed deep concern that AIDS has become the leading cause of death in both males and females in the 25-44 age group in the Region.

Recognising that the HIV/AIDS epidemic now threatens to seriously undermine the human resource development efforts, reversing the gains made in social and economic development in the Region over the past three decades, Heads of Government agreed to give full support to the regional strategic plan to mount an expanded response to combat the epidemic.

Heads of Government agreed to use all possible means to secure financial resources required for the implementation of the regional strategic plan and to become fully involved in the promotion of preventive strategies at the national and regional levels.”

**22nd Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 2001, Nassau, Bahamas**

Confronting the HIV/AIDS Pandemic: A Matter of Grave Concern

“Heads of Government noted with grave concern the escalating prevalence of the dreaded HIV/AIDS pandemic in the Region as a whole. They stressed in particular, its devastating effects among young adults in their most productive years, and its potential to seriously compromise the economic growth of the Region.

Heads of Government pledged their support for the work of the Pan Caribbean Partnership. Heads of Government resolved to support capacity building programmes at national levels and to pool resources and share national experiences in the areas of prevention and care, advocacy, research and resource mobilisation. They resolved to pursue joint efforts to negotiate affordable prices for the anti-retroviral drugs and for a programme of education for all.

Heads of Government were pleased that a number of their countries participated at the highest political level at the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on HIV/AIDS, and were deeply appreciative of the support to be provided by the United Nations as acknowledged by

the United Nations Secretary-General in his message to the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Conference. They reiterated their support for the declaration arising from the Special Session and agreed to adopt a consolidated approach to maximise the benefits to the Region from the proposed UN Global HIV/AIDS-Health Fund. They stressed the need for those Governments that had not yet done so, to prepare their national strategic plans by September 2001, so as to facilitate access to available funding.

Heads of Government received with appreciation the announcement by the Canadian High Commissioner, His Excellency John Robinson, of CIDA's enhanced support to the Region's HIV/AIDS Pan Caribbean Partnership, in the sum of Cdn\$20million.

Heads of Government recalled the pledge made by President Bush in Quebec City, of a total of US\$20 million in HIV/AIDS funding to the Caribbean for fiscal year 2002, as part of the USA's proposed Third Border Initiative.

Heads of Government welcomed the proposal from Mexico for co-operation and technical assistance in these matters.

Conscious of the need to confront the pandemic within the context of a more comprehensive Caribbean Health Initiative, Heads of Government further agreed to issue the Nassau Declaration on Health 2001.”

- **Cricket**

7th Interessional Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 29th February – 1st March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

Review of Performance: State of West Indian Cricket

“Heads of Government recalled the role that West Indian Cricket has played in representing West Indian excellence in the field of international sport and they expressed deep concern about its present state.

They considered the future of West Indian Cricket and the urgent need to take practical steps to return the West Indian Cricket Team to its former place at the pinnacle of international cricket.

Heads of Government agreed that a Committee, headed by the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda and including the Prime Ministers of Dominica and Jamaica, assisted by the CARICOM Secretariat, should hold an early meeting with the West Indian Cricket Board of Control as part of an effort to determine how best West Indian cricketers and West Indian cricket could be strengthened on a sustained basis.”

**18th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June – 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

Excellence in Cricket: Dignity and Self-Worth

“We recognise that sports have contributed to the gaining of international respect for our countries and to providing a sense of dignity and self-worth in our peoples. We shall continue to encourage the achievement of excellence in sports not only to enlarge the opportunities for individual success, but also to further enrich our Region’s standing in the global community and to enhance the dignity and pride of our peoples.”

**20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

Cricket: The Poor Performances

“Heads of Government reviewed with representatives of the West Indies Cricket Board, the state of West Indies cricket following the poor performance of the West Indies team in South Africa and their disappointing results in the World Cup Series. They also discussed the development plans of the Board and how governments could contribute to their implementation.

Heads of Government received a report on preparations for hosting the World Cup in 2007. They agreed that a major regional conference on cricket should be convened and requested the University of the West Indies to take responsibility for this undertaking.

Heads of Government mandated the Council for Finance and Planning to consider and make recommendations on the proposal from the Board for a CARICOM Lotto, the proceeds of which would finance the development of cricket and staging of CARIFESTA on a regular basis.”

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 13th – 14th March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts

Cricket: A Special Place in Region’s Economic and Social Life

“Heads of Government reiterated that cricket occupies a special place in the economic and social life of the people of the Region and that every effort must be made by all stakeholders to encourage the continued development of the game.

They received a communication from the Concerned Citizens for Justice of Antigua and Barbuda which sought to bring to the Conference’s attention their concern over the state of West Indies cricket and their perception of the problems which need to be addressed. In response, the Cricket Sub-Committee of the Heads of Government represented by the Hon. Prime Minister of Grenada, met with a delegation of the Concerned Citizens for Justice.

Heads of Government recognised that the Conference on West Indies Cricket offers an opportunity for all stakeholders to contribute to the resolution of the difficulties confronting West Indies Cricket. In this connection they urged Member States to ensure that national consultations which will culminate with a plenary in June at the UWI in Barbados, should be so organised as to benefit from the widest possible participation by the people of their countries, including groups such as the Concerned Citizens for Justice of Antigua and Barbuda.

Heads of Government looked forward to the cricket conference contributing to the reform and rejuvenation of West Indies cricket so that it might continue to enjoy the special place of pride it has traditionally occupied in the hearts of the people of the region.

They called on all West Indians to render the fullest possible support to the West Indies Cricket team as it embarks on the home series against Zimbabwe and Pakistan.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd July – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.**

**Cricket: Principal Expression of Region’s Heritage:
Action Plan: World Cup 2007**

“Heads of Government in acknowledging that cricket is the principal expression of the Region's cultural heritage agreed to develop and implement strategies and structures consistent with this policy. They accepted the resolutions emanating from the Regional Cricket Conference with respect to Institutional Strengthening, Cricket Education, Player Centeredness; the West Indies Players Association; People Participation, Gender; and the World Cup 2007.

The Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on Cricket was charged with the responsibility of considering the full report from the Cricket Conference, holding consultations with West Indian Cricket Board (WICB) and other relevant institutions as deemed necessary and preparing

recommendations in time for the consideration of the Conference at its next Inter-Sessional Meeting scheduled for 2001.

With respect to World Cup 2007, Heads of Government stressed the need for urgent and immediate consultations with the WICB to establish the requirements to be met so that Governments could be apprised at the earliest opportunity of their obligations in this regard.

Heads of Government recognised the sterling contribution of the West Indies Cricket Board to the development of West Indies cricket.”

- **Culture**

**5th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 8th July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda**

Development of the Steelband: A Regional Programme

“Recalling the mandate which it has given to the CARICOM Secretariat to prepare proposals for the development of a regional programme for the promotion of the steelband, the Conference endorsed the decision of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education to approve the steps being taken to establish a decentralised Caribbean Intercultural Music in Trinidad and Tobago with the development of the steelband as a priority concern.”

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, 9th – 14th October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad & Tobago

Cultural Co-operation: Developing Closer Links throughout the Region

“The Conference considered proposals from the Caribbean Writers and Creative and Performing Artistes for the institutionalisation of the Caribbean Festival of Creative Arts as the mechanism for developing closer cultural links throughout the Region.

It was agreed that the Festival be held on a triennial basis. The Government of Jamaica offered to host the next Festival.

The Conference also agreed to the setting up of a Cultural Desk in the Commonwealth Caribbean Regional Secretariat to co-ordinate co-operation in cultural matters in the Region.”

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, 9th – 13th April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

CARIFESTA: New Format

“Conference agreed on a new format for the organisation and scheduling of CARIFESTA up to the year 2000 which would enable the smaller CARICOM countries to host the festival from time to time.

It noted with appreciation that Jamaica would be hosting the festival in 1988 and accepted the offer of Trinidad and Tobago to host it in 1991.”

9th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 4th – 8th July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda

CARIFESTA: Costs and Benefits

“The Heads received a progress report on the CARIFESTA programme and approved the recommendations formulated by the Seventh Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education. The Heads agreed that a Meeting of Ministers responsible for Culture should be convened in Jamaica to determine the most cost-effective and culturally beneficial structure for promoting future CARIFESTAs, beginning with the CARIFESTA to be held in Jamaica in 1989.”

10th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

3rd – 7th July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

CARIFESTA V: Rich and Varied Culture of Member States

“The Heads of Government noted with satisfaction the preparations being made for CARIFESTA V to take place in Trinidad and Tobago in 1991.

They noted that the major multi-disciplinary festival of arts would serve to affirm the identity, artistic achievements and rich and varied culture of CARICOM Member States. As an artistic and cultural explosion, CARIFESTA V will focus world attention on, and heighten knowledge and understanding of the achievements and uniqueness of the Caribbean.”

**12th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 4th July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts**

CARIFESTA: A Multi-disciplinary Festival

“Heads of Government expressed satisfaction with the preparations for CARIFESTA to be hosted by Trinidad and Tobago from 9th – 16th August 1992 and pledged that their countries would contribute in every way to ensure that the Festival is successful.

Heads of Government reiterated the expectation that CARIFESTA, being the major multi-disciplinary festival of the Arts and Culture in the region, would serve to affirm the identity, artistic achievements and the rich and varied culture of the CARICOM Member States.

They welcomed the plans to incorporate events related to the commemoration of the 200th Anniversary of Haitian independence through the highlighting of the Haitian art and culture as an integral part of CARIFESTA.”

**13th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29th June – 2nd July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

CARIFESTA: The Hallmark of Excellence

“Heads of Government applauded the preparations of CARIFESTA V which is to be hosted by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago from August 22-28, 1992.

Heads of Government noted that the range of activities being planned included symposia, Regional exhibition of Visual and Plastic Arts, a Regional grand Market and a Village of Indigenous People. They expressed the view that the major symposia to take place during that week which would focus on arts and culture in development, would be of particular relevance in determining the scale, scope and operational arrangements for future CARIFESTAs.

Reiterating that excellence should be the hallmark of CARIFESTA V, Heads of Government looked forward to the celebration of a “CARIFESTA Week” in their respective countries coinciding with the celebrations in Trinidad and Tobago.”

**14th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, Bahamas**

CARIFESTA: Trinidad’s Sense of Responsibility

“Heads of Government expressed their appreciation of a report on CARIFESTA V presented by Trinidad and Tobago and commended that Member State for the manner in which it handled the organisation and staging of the Festival particularly since it was undertaken at short notice. Heads of Government also accepted an offer by Trinidad and Tobago to host CARIFESTA V in 1995 and agreed that details of the hosting arrangements will be provided at the next Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference.”

**16th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana**

CARIFESTA: As Premier Regional Activity

“Heads of Government received the report from the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago on the status of preparations for (staging) CARIFESTA VI scheduled for 19 August – 2 September 1995, and commended the Government and people of Trinidad and Tobago for the efforts which they are expanding in order to ensure that the Festival is a success. They agreed that in the context of the Fiftieth Anniversary of the United Nations, CARIFESTA would be presented as the premier regional activity in commemoration of this Anniversary.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

CARIFESTA VII – St. Kitts and Nevis: Cultural Affinity

“Heads of Government welcomed the offer by the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis to host CARIFESTA VII. They recognised that this offer by one of the smaller CARICOM States symbolised the importance of this festival as a concrete expression of the cultural affinity of all Caribbean peoples. They expressed the hope that CARIFESTA VII would be supported by the countries of the wider Caribbean.”

**18th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June – 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

Montego Bay Declaration: Caribbean Sense of Cultural Identity

“We pledge collectively and individually to foster the further development of the cultural identity of our Caribbean sense of identity, cultural identity and certitude and rich forms of self knowledge.”

- **Regional Air Transportation**

**1st Special Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
26th – 27th January 1974, Bridgetown, Barbados**

Regional Transportation: Regional Transportation Council

“Important decisions were taken on regional transportation. Conference agreed in principle to the establishment of a Regional Transportation Council of Ministers within the framework of the Caribbean Community to replace the Regional Shipping Council to co-ordinate all aspects of regional transportation, including Shipping and Air Transport for passengers and freight; development of transport infrastructure such as Ports and Airports; and negotiating machinery on freight rates proposed by extra-regional Shipping and Air Carriers. A decision was also taken to appoint a Working Party of regional officials to submit proposals to Conference on Rationalisation of Air Transport facilities for passengers and freight both intra- and extra-regionally.”

**Inaugural Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15th – 18th July 1974, Castries, St. Lucia**

Standing Committee of Ministers Responsible for Transportation

“Conference decided to create a Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for transport as a new Institution under the Caribbean Community Treaty to co-ordinate at the policy level all aspects of Sea and Air Transport in the region, subject to the Working Party of Officials formulating detailed terms of reference for this Ministerial Committee. It also decided that the Working Party should draft a new Agreement governing WISCO to provide for:

- (a) the operation of WISCO along commercial lines;
- (b) more powers of day-to-day decision making being delegated to the Board of Directors.

Conference welcomed the decision of Guyana to become a full participant of WISCO with effect from 1st January 1975.

Rationalisation of Air Transportation

On the question of air transportation in the Region, the Conference agreed that the working party established to examine the matter should proceed expeditiously with its work.”

**3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15th – 18th November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica**

Air Services and Economic Development

“Having regard to the important role of reliable and adequate air services in the promotion of economic development and the clear need to improve the efficiency and enhance the viability of air transportation services owned by countries of the Region, Heads of Government decided that an inter-governmental agreement on co-operation in air transportation be concluded and to that end, to appoint a high-level Committee to prepare a draft agreement, and in addition, to examine and make recommendations to Governments on all aspects of rationalisation of passenger and freight air transportation in the Region.”

Regional Transport (Air Transportation)

“Having regard to the need to Members for reliable and adequate air services to promote economic development, including especially tourism and trade,

CONFERENCE:

Noted that –

- i) there is a clear need to improve the efficiency and enhance the viability of air transportation services owned by countries of the Region;

- ii) small competing airlines carry very high overhead costs;
- iii) a vital resource of the Region in the field of air transportation is the route rights inhering in the Region as a whole and owned at present by its several Member States; most of these States do not possess the facilities to enjoy the reciprocal benefits deriving from these rights;
- iv) non-regional carriers operating in the Region under separate air services agreements in the absence of any coherent regional policy in many cases give rise to unequal competition which imposes substantial losses upon individual national air carriers of the Region;
- v) the continuing requirement of the Region is for reliable uninterrupted air transportation services both intra-regionally and between countries of the Region and countries beyond;
- vi) such continuity is best assured within the control of Governments of the Region.

Agreed –

- i) That an inter-governmental agreement of co-operation in air transportation among Member States be concluded. Such an agreement would, *inter alia*, provide for one Member State to designate an airline owned by another Member State as its national carrier. In the event of such an agreement, Heads of Government should adopt a resolution calling upon Third Countries to recognise the provisions of such an agreement;
- ii) To direct airlines owned by countries of the Region to explore urgently and implement fully, all feasible areas of co-operation in their respective operations;
- iii) To urge the ATLAs of Member States to respond promptly to requests for the approval of schedules and fares made by airlines owned by countries of the Region;
- iv) To nominate a high-level committee, to comprise two representatives each from Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago and the OECS, to prepare a draft of the inter-governmental agreement, and, in addition, to examine and make recommendations to Governments on:
 - (a) all aspects of rationalisation of passengers and freight air transportation in the Region;

- (b) mechanisms, including tour operating companies for improving the flow of tourist traffic to the Region, having particular regard to the need to provide adequate support to the LDCs;
- v) to direct the committee to submit its report to Governments within the next six months;
- vi) that the Secretary-General will convene the high-level committee.”

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 4th – 8th July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Air Transportation: Inter-Governmental Agreement

“Heads of Government agreed to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement on co-operation in Air Transportation among Member States. The Agreement provides, inter alia, for one Member State to designate an airline owned by another Member State as its national carrier. They also agreed on a resolution calling upon Third Countries to recognise the provisions of the Agreement.

They agreed that further progress in the area of rationalisation of passenger and freight air transportation in the Region would promote the integration process and increase benefits accruing to Member States. They noted that the High Level Committee which they established at their Meeting in Ocho Rios had not been able to study this question in depth, and mandated it to continue its work and report every six months to the Common Market Council.

Heads of Government agreed that the enlargement of facilities for air freight was an urgent requirement to increase intra-regional trade. In this connection they took note of the fact that participation in CARICARGO – the joint venture air freight company established by Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados – was open to all Member States; and agreed that the High Level Committee should also address the question of enlarging facilities for regional air freight.

They also agreed to establish a CARICOM Civil Aviation Consultative Committee to provide a forum for consultation among Member States in the area of Bilateral Air Services Treaties with particular reference to fifth freedom rights, airfares and rates, capacity control, multiple designation and intra-Caribbean traffic.”

**5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas**

**Inter-Governmental Agreement on Co-operation in Air Transportation:
Rational Development of Services**

“During the Conference, the Representative of Member States signed the Inter-Governmental Agreement on Co-operation in Air Transportation. In the context of the Agreement, national airlines of Member States shall explore and implement all feasible areas of functional co-operation in order to promote their viability and the orderly and rational development of the air transport services for the Region. Member States have also agreed to the establishment of a consultative mechanism on bilateral air transportation negotiations.”

**14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas**

Air Transportation: Functional Co-operation among Caribbean Airlines

“Heads of Government received a report from the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines on the privatisation of LIAT. They agreed, with the reservation of one Member State, to the proposals for finalising the process of privatisation of LIAT and the legal arrangements affecting the new membership structure. They also expressed their appreciation to Prime Minister Mitchell for his invaluable contribution to bringing this matter to such a definitive stage.

Heads of Government also reviewed and endorsed proposals for functional co-operation among the Caribbean Airlines. They recognised that such co-operation was an essential element in the process of restructuring with a view of increasing their profitability. They also agreed to the formation of a Regional Air Carrier comprising existing national airlines of the Community and an appropriate foreign Air Carrier. Such a Regional Air Carrier would be owned and operated by the private sector, with Government participation and with majority equity participation from within the Region. In this regard, Heads of Government requested the Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines to follow-up on behalf of the Conference the proposals for increased functional co-operation among the airlines of the Region and the formation of a Regional Air Carrier by 1 January 1995.”

**14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas**

Air Transportation: Importance to Regional Economies

“Heads of Government considered the provision of regional air transportation in the context of its importance to the people of the Caribbean and to regional economies. They reviewed the issue of the re-organisation, management and privatisation of LIAT (1974) Ltd. and agreed that its management should be turned over to the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago on 1 August 1994. The Shareholder Governments agreed that the existing members of LIAT’s Board of Directors shall resign by 31 July 1994, and that a new Board shall be appointed by 1 August 1994 to manage the airline. Thereupon, the current arrears to the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) shall be paid from an escrow account established in the Antigua Commercial Bank in the sum of EC\$10 million.

Heads of Government further agreed that the said escrow account shall be utilised to service the debt with the CDB, and that LIAT shall continue to service, through its cash flow, all existing liabilities as of 1 August 1994 on behalf of all shareholders, who shall remain responsible for those existing liabilities. All new net liabilities incurred between 1 August 1994 and 31 March 1995 shall be the responsibility of the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago. No further subventions to LIAT shall be required from shareholders.

Heads of Government agreed to consider a proposal for the privatisation of LIAT, including transitional arrangements, which shall be submitted not later than 31 January 1995 for their consideration at the subsequent Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference, and in any case not later than 31 March 1995.

Heads of Government further agreed that between 1 August 1994 and the date of privatisation, LIAT shall continue to enjoy the route rights currently assigned to it, provided that these rights are not in contravention of the provisions of the proposed Multilateral Air Services Agreement. Normal Services now provided by LIAT to Shareholder Governments will be maintained during the stated period.

Heads of Government agreed on the terms and conditions under which LIAT shall be managed and operated from 1 August 1994 until 31 March 1995.

They further agreed that an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Shareholders of LIAT shall be convened no later than 25 July 1994 to give effect to the above arrangements, and that the Secretary-General shall monitor and assist in their effective implementation.

With regard to the regulatory structure of regional aviation, Heads of Government considered a draft Multilateral Agreement which seeks to formalise the arrangements for the provision of air services by CARICOM carriers within the Community.”

6th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 16th – 17th February 1995, Belize City, Belize

Air Transportation: Privatisation of LIAT

“Heads of Government received a detailed report from the Prime Minister of Antigua and Barbuda on the successful restructuring measures which have achieved a significant improvement in the operating performance of LIAT since responsibility for the management of the airline was assumed by the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda and Trinidad and Tobago. Against this background, the two Governments tabled a joint proposal for the privatisation of the airline in the shortest possible time on the basis of majority ownership by regional investors, including employees. The proposal included the assumption of a substantial portion of the liabilities of the airline by the shareholder governments in exchange for the forgiveness by the airline of the subventions owed by the shareholder governments.

Heads of Government agreed in principle to the joint proposal, and to the extension of the term of office of the current Board of Directors and executive management of the airline to 30 June 1995 or until the privatisation of the airline is achieved, whichever is sooner.

In a related matter, Heads of Government noted that eight Member States had indicated their acceptance of the text of the proposed Multilateral Agreement concerning the operation of air services within the Caribbean Community. This Agreement provides for the formulation of the route rights of Member States and for the Agreement’s entry into force upon the deposit of the eighth instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General of the Community.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

Regional Air Transportation: Needs, Realities and Prospects

“Heads of Government welcomed the signing by a number of Member States of the Multilateral Air Services Agreement during the course of the Conference.

They however noted the concerns expressed over recent developments in the air transportation sector and agreed that the Secretariat would make arrangements for a comprehensive study of the needs, realities and prospects of the sector. The objective of the study would be the rationalisation of air transportation in the Region and the preparation of strategic plan of options for its development. The study would also pay particular attention to air transportation in the eastern and south eastern Caribbean and consider the effects on the Region of the deregulation of air transportation occurring in the international environment and extending into the metropolitan jurisdictions in the Region.”

- **Education**

**7th Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
9th – 14th October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago**

University of the West Indies: Its Regional Character

“The Conference adopted a Resolution dealing with several aspects of the future role, character and functions of the University of the West Indies.

It was agreed to retain the regional character of the University.

Recognising the importance of Tourism in the Region, Conference took a decision to initiate steps for the University to provide training in Tourism and Hotel Management in its

expansion programme in the present triennium. In the siting of the new training facilities, it was felt that serious consideration should be given to a non-campus territory.

Immediate training programmes should be undertaken by the University to assist in the training of hotel personnel at various levels in existing hotel schools in the Region.

In order to determine the basis for the expansion of the University, a Technical Committee consisting of representatives of the University of the West Indies and the University of Guyana was appointed to assess the requirements for training manpower at the professional, administrative, managerial and sub-professional levels in the Commonwealth Caribbean.

The report of this Committee should be completed before the beginning of the 1973/74 Academic Year for submission to Heads of Governments.

Subject to the approval of the University Council a programme of expansion in the priority areas of medicine, engineering (including Agricultural engineering), Tourism and Hotel Management, and Business Management was agreed upon. In addition, Conference also resolved that efforts be made to accelerate the introduction of training programmes in the fields of Journalism and Mass Communications.

It was also agreed that the existing entry requirements should be maintained.

A new formula for contribution to the University was also approved by Conference.

With regard to the relationship between the University of the West Indies and the University of Guyana, it was resolved that the two Universities should continue and intensify their programmes of co-operation particularly in the fields of scientific and technological research.

The Conference by resolution reaffirmed its confidence in the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies and directed that its expression of confidence be conveyed to him.”

**8th Meeting of the Heads of Government of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
9th – 12th April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana**

**Regional Management of the Institute of International Relations, UWI, St. Augustine:
Participation of Member States**

“The Heads of Government agreed that Commonwealth Caribbean Governments should participate in the management of the Institute as provided for in its Constitution. The Head of Governments of Barbados, Guyana and Jamaica signified the intention of their Governments to participate in the Institute. The Conference noted that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago pledged continuing support for the Institute.”

**2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
8th – 10th December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla**

**University of the West Indies:
Changing Development Strategies and Perspectives**

“The Conference decided to appoint a Committee with the following terms of reference: Taking into account current and projected government policies in relation to the entire system of post-secondary education, to examine and make recommendations on the role, character, functions and orientation of University education in the Commonwealth Caribbean, with special reference to:

- (a) the role of the Caribbean University in promoting national and regional consciousness and commitment;
- (b) the need to integrate as far as possible the world of study with the world of work;
- (c) the need for the Caribbean University to be adapted to the changing development perspectives and strategies of the countries which it serves;
- (d) the extent to which it is necessary in the interests of national and regional development to change the balance of disciplines within the University with particular reference to the ratio

between arts-based and science-based subjects and to providing training programmes at other than professional level;

- (e) the desirability of effecting the maximum devolution of authority possible to campuses consistent with the preservation of the regional character of the University; taking full account of the financial implications, especially the need to avoid duplication of expensive Faculties;
- (f) the need for optimum levels of participation in decision-making by all sections of the University community consistent with a University Institution of excellence for teaching, training and research for the benefit of the Region;
- (g) the need to review the present formula for financing the University in order to facilitate the operation and development of campus and non-campus facilities, bearing in mind the special needs and capabilities of each contributing territory;
- (h) the need to provide for greater University involvement and presence in the non-campus territories;
- (i) the desirability and feasibility of the University of Guyana being integrated into a West Indian University System.”

**4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4th – 8th July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

University of the West Indies: Implementing Restructuring Proposals

“Heads of Government endorsed the decisions of the University Council that the date for the implementation of the academic aspect of the restructuring proposals should be October 1, 1984, and that of the University Grants Committee the date for the implementation of the new financial arrangements should be August 1, 1984, the beginning of the University’s financial year.

Arising therefrom, Conference accepted the proposal on the restructuring of the University of the West Indies submitted by the OECS Countries and directed that the University move with utmost despatch to implement the proposals within the limits of its resources. The operative date

for the introduction of the new arrangements should be the same as that for the overall restructuring of the University of the West Indies, that is, October 1, 1984.

The OECS proposals include the establishment of two offices of University services as follows:

- (a) One office headed by a full-time Pro-Vice Chancellor to be located at Cave Hill Campus with responsibility for the OECS countries, Anguilla and the British Virgin Islands; and
- (b) An office to be located at the Mona Campus with responsibility for Belize, The Bahamas, Cayman Islands, the Turks and Caicos Islands.

With respect to the funding of the Arbitration Award for academic and senior administrative staff at the St. Augustine Campus, UWI, and the settlement of arrears, the Conference noted the commitments by Governments to make the necessary arrangements for resolving these matters.

**5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas**

Restructuring of the University of the West Indies: Matters Resolved

“Conference noted that all the relevant issues which had been identified at its Fourth Meeting of Conference had been resolved and that satisfactory progress was being made towards attainment of the target dates for implementation of the new structure, namely, 1st October 1984, for the academic aspects and 1st August 1984 for the financial arrangements.”

**6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
1st – 9th July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados**

**The Barbados Consensus on Development of Local and Regional Entrepreneurship and Skills in the Member States of the Caribbean Community:
Expanding the Economic Base**

“Heads of Government agreed that every effort should be made to promote the development of entrepreneurial, managerial and technical skills in the countries of the Region, to enable them to move from their inherited narrow and fragile economic base to a more diversified, resilient and self-reliant economy. They undertook to review their education and training systems so as to place more emphasis on science and technology and on the development of initiative and self-reliant attitudes.

They also decided, wherever feasible, to pool on a regional basis highly-training professional and managerial manpower as well as indigenous entrepreneurship. They also pledged themselves to intensify their individual and collective efforts to find a solution to the problem of the brain-drain.”

**11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

**Human Resource Development Programme of the UWI:
Science, Technology, Management and Education**

“Heads of Government considered a report from Mr. Alister Mc Intyre, Vice Chancellor of the University of the West Indies on the steps being taken by the University to implement the Resolution on Human Resource Development adopted at the Tenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government.

They were pleased to learn that the University Development Plan for the period 1990-2000, which projects a 50 percent increase in enrolment – especially in the areas of science, technology, management and education – was at a very advanced stage. In this new plan, the University was

placing emphasis on bringing the non-Campus territories into the mainstream of university development.”

**16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4th – 7th July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana**

Implementation of the Report on the Chancellor’s Commission on the Governance of UWI

“Heads of Government received a report from the Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies on the progress being made in implementing the report of the Chancellor’s Commission on the Governance of the University. It noted that a full report on the details of implementation would be shortly available to governments in good time for the Special Meeting of the University Council scheduled for 24 November 1995.

Heads of Government however noted the intention of the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of the University to call on Heads of Government for an informal exchange of views on the report prior to the Council’s meeting.”

Law Programme at the University of Guyana

“Heads of Government received a report from the Vice-Chancellor of UWI regarding difficulties which had arisen as a result of the decision of the University of Guyana to introduce a full degree programme in Law, which was not in conformity with the Inter-Governmental Agreement of 1970 establishing regional arrangements for the teaching of law.

The Vice-Chancellor of the UWI informed the Heads of Government that he had advised the President of Guyana about those difficulties, and informed him that UWI will make further efforts to resolve the matter with the University of Guyana, since it was unable at this time to certify the programme at the University within the provisions of the Inter-Governmental Agreement.”

**17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3rd – 7th July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados**

Developments regarding UWI: New System of Governance

“Heads of Government received with satisfaction a progress report on the new system of governance devised by the University of the West Indies, to focus teaching and research on the development needs of the Region and which at the same time endeavours to increase the cost effectiveness of the University’s operations.

Heads of Government endorsed the Vice Chancellor’s proposal for the Conference to meet in special session to review the human resource requirements of the Region at their Eighteenth Meeting.

They agreed to request that the University Council grant an extension of Sir Alister McIntyre’s tenure as Vice Chancellor.

They further agreed to support fully the Fiftieth Anniversary Celebrations of the University of the West Indies in 1998.”

- **Tourism**

4th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 22nd – 23rd March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

The Tourist Sector: North America Advertising Campaign

“The Heads of Government received a report on progress made since their 1992 Tourism Summit and expressed appreciation that the North American advertising campaign has been launched. They pledged their continued support for the Regional Marketing Programme in 1994.

The Heads of Government welcomed the implementation of the Regional Tourism Organisation funded under Lomé III as agreed on by the Caribbean Tourism Organisation and the European Community. The Heads of Government also reiterated the need to market the Caribbean as a Region having a diversified tourism product.

With regard to the Cruise Lines, the Heads of Government focussed specifically on the issue of a unified per capita tax. On this matter the Heads of Government committed themselves to taking a final decision in the very near future.

The Heads of Government agreed that guaranteed air transportation was critical to the success of the Regional Tourism Industry. They noted with concern the uncertainty facing some of the major international carriers servicing the Region. In this regard, the Heads of Government were of the view that the question of viability of the existing regional carriers must be accorded priority attention.

They agreed to address the entire issue of air transportation at their Fourteenth Meeting.”

**18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June – 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

Tourism: Sustainable Development

“Heads of Government considered a number of proposals on air transportation, tourism, human resource development and capital investment which had been identified by CARICOM Ministers of Tourism as critical issues in sustainable tourism development.

With respect to air transportation, Heads of Government agreed that a meeting of air transport and tourism personnel be convened in January 1998 to determine a strategy for the

sustainability and development of both the tourism and airline industries in the Region, with its recommendation to be submitted to the Ninth Inter-Sessional Meeting of Conference.

Heads of Government also agreed that Ministers of Tourism should conduct an in-depth examination of Human Resource Development (HRD) issues at their proposed meeting in January 1998. The Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO) proposal for the formation of a Tourism Education and Training Council, at the broader CARIFORUM level, which would oversee the strategic changes needed in Tourism HRD was unanimously accepted by the Conference. It was further agreed that Association of Caribbean Tertiary Institutions (ACTI) should be a member of the proposed Council.”

9th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 2nd – 3rd March 1998, St. Georges, Grenada

Tourism: Critical to Caribbean Economies

“Heads of Government received a Report from the Third Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) which stressed the critical importance of Tourism to Caribbean development and equally the major challenges which currently face the industry.

They accepted the need for a major effort to upgrade the CARICOM Tourism product and to market the Caribbean as a Region. Heads of Government recognised the importance of efficient and dependable air transportation to the Region’s Tourism industry. They were, therefore, heartened by the initiatives of the regional airlines to increase co-operation and looked forward to a full report at their meeting in Saint Lucia in July.”

SECTION III

CO-ORDINATION OF FOREIGN POLICY

INTRODUCTION

- **Foreign Economic Relations**
 - i) **CARICOM-US**
 - ii) **CARICOM-EU**
 - **Banana Regime**
 - iii) **CARICOM-Latin America**
- **Political Relations**
 - **Controversy and Border Disputes**
- **Political Interventions**
 - **In Defence of Electoral Democracy**

The Member States of the Caribbean Community are enjoined by the Treaty of Chaguaramas to present a common front to the external world, both in terms of politics and economics. While the Community's record in this regard is not unblemished, there is much to be proud of. The Community and its Member States have participated in the drama of the liberation of Southern Africa, collectively affirmed their position during the unstable period in the '70s in Central America, recognised the Republic of Cuba and ended the isolation that the United States sought to impose on it, defended the right of Small States, offered assistance and guidance to Member States, whose territorial integrity and sovereignty came under threat, and latterly, created the conditions for its re-positioning so that the benefits of globalisation in political terms can be reaped.

In economic terms, it has successfully co-ordinated its activities on a number of significant global and regional issues, and it has crafted the required mechanism not only to enable it to present a common position to the external world in economic affairs, but has also strengthened itself to participate in the major global negotiations. Economic relations have been developed and expanded with the major power of the Region, the United States, Canada and the European Union. At the same time, the Community made extensive preparations to meet the challenges involved in the negotiations in the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and the creation of the FTAA.

These documents also clearly demonstrate that the Community as a matter of policy did set out to foster good relations with the leadership of the major International Financial Institutions. Accordingly, at various times the Community has had meetings with the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, the President of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth, the ACS, the OAS and the Director General of the FAO. Also, relations were cultivated and developed with the Presidents and Prime Ministers of Latin America.

The Report of the West Indian Commission has correctly pointed out that "...we have done enough acting together to wonder why we do not, as a matter of course, seek West Indian solutions to difficult problems which have International dimensions."⁴¹ This is a good point.

In the period under review the Caribbean Community has shown purpose and won respect when it acted as a single unit. In this mode it has made its presence felt in some of the important Councils of the world, such as the United Nations and the Commonwealth. It is for this reason that Caribbean diplomats are held in high regard by the international community and their opinion

⁴¹ Report of the West Indian Commission – p 42

sought on major foreign policy issues. The Region therefore, as a unified unit in the field of foreign policy, can exercise influence and authority way beyond its actual economical and political weight.

In economic terms, the best example of the Community acting together is the creation of the negotiating bloc of Asia, Africa, and the Caribbean (ACP). In the '70s, this enabled the Region to protect its interests and in the process, it became one of the leaders of the countries in the southern part of the globe. The ACP was successful in the negotiations for the Four Lomé Agreements and the successor Accord which was signed in Cotonou, Benin. The outstanding work done by the Community in the search of a new round of Global Trade negotiations has earned plaudits beyond the Region. The creation of the Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM) and the coordinating activities it has successfully undertaken to date are likely to bring into being the kind of framework that will make negotiating as a single unit in the area of international economics a less difficult task than in the past. The need for a unified approach to Trade issues will become more urgent as the Community attends to critical negotiations with the FTAA and the management of its economic relations with the important powers of the Sub-Region.

The Widening of the Community is an important subject. For many years after the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas the Leaders of the Community examined it in terms of its relationship with other States of the Sub-Region. Then there was a preference for deepening as opposed to widening. All this changed with the onset of globalisation and the need to create a single economic space. The widening of the Community was seen as a response to two developments: the increasing globalisation of the world's economy and the establishment of major economic blocs. The Association of Caribbean States (ACS) not only, in a sense, formalised its relationship with some of the principal States of the Region but also enhanced the bargaining power of the Community.

The issue of Joint Representation will have to be treated with greater seriousness by the Community. Despite declaration that this must be done; joint representation has been honoured more in the breach than in practice. The fact that as the Twenty-first Century progresses and resources available for diplomatic activities by individual CARICOM States are less easily available, this matter should occupy the minds of the Leaders of the Community. Joint Representation will increasingly become a critical issue and will have to be addressed urgently and in a practical way.

- **Foreign Economic Relations**

- i) **CARICOM-USA Relations**

**11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica**

CBI: Disappointment over Removal of New Legislative Provisions

“Heads of Government reviewed developments relating to the CBI and more particularly, the CBI II legislation and while welcoming the progress through the legislative process, expressed disappointment at the systematic removal of new and innovative provisions from the legislation.

They however, viewed with interest the “Enterprises of the Americas” initiative announced by President Bush on 27 June 1990. Heads of Government urged that any follow-up to the initiative be based on thorough consultation at all levels and at all stages and affirmed that CARICOM Member States will adopt a joint approach in response to the initiative.”

**13th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29th June – 2nd July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

CARICOM-USA Joint Council: Mutually Agreed Trade Issues

“Heads of Government welcomed the convening in April 1992 of the First Meeting of the CARICOM-United States Trade and Investment Council which provided a useful forum for the discussion of mutually agreed trade issues. They reiterated their position that within the context of the Enterprise for the Americas Initiative (EAI) full account must be taken of the differences in the economic structures and circumstances of the Parties.

Heads of Government emphasised the importance of expanding trade relations with the USA to the development of their economies, and in this regard noted the list of “agreed action items” prepared by both parties and urged that efforts be made to deal with the matters expeditiously.”

4th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 22nd – 23rd March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

Relations with the United States of America: NAFTA: Priority of Community

The Conference endorsed the action taken by the Bureau to sensitise the new US Administration to the priority concerns of the Region. They agreed to request the CARICOM Group of Ambassadors to maintain the closest possible contact with the relevant United States Officials in order to promote and defend the interests of the Region.

The Heads of Government reiterated their concern about the possible negative effect which the NAFTA arrangement will have on trade and investment in the CARICOM Region. In this regard, they called upon the signatory countries to that Agreement to extend to CARICOM products not included in the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) and CARIBCAN the same treatment accorded to these products originating from Mexico.

The Conference noted the initiative within certain sectors of the United States Congress towards the introduction of the Caribbean Basin Free Trade Agreement Act of 1993 aimed at protecting Caribbean Basin countries from the effects of NAFTA. They expressed their desire to review more thoroughly the provisions of the Bill especially those which seem to drastically limit the life of the proposed legislation. The Conference also agreed to present the US authorities with a documented submission on the adverse effects of NAFTA on CARICOM-US Trade and Investment relations.”

6th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 16th – 17th February 1995, Belize City, Belize

Relations with North America: Caribbean Basin Trade Security Act: Stimulating Economic Growth

“Heads of Government expressed their full support and appreciation for the Bill entitled “Caribbean Basin Trade Security Act” which was introduced at the first session of the 104th Congress by Congressman Crane and co-sponsored by a bipartisan group of Congressmen. They observed that the Bill would strengthen economic ties between the USA and the CBI region and could stimulate economic growth by providing the assurance required by potential investors. They urged the US administration and the legislative bodies to give their full support to ensure the early passage of the Bill.”

18th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 30th June – 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

CARICOM-USA Relations: Consultations Welcomed

“Heads of Government reiterated their satisfaction with the Caribbean-USA Summit held in Barbados on 10 May 1997 and with the Bridgetown Partnership for Prosperity and Security

which was adopted. They welcomed the arrangements for annual consultations between the Foreign Ministers of the Caribbean and the US Secretary of State and recognised the need for urgent and intense follow-up to the decisions adopted at the Caribbean-USA Summit. They also welcomed the early attention being given by the US Authorities to this process and reiterated their commitment to promote measures towards the advancement and other areas of critical importance to the Region. They expressed their concern however that on certain critical understandings reached, the follow-through has not met expectations.”

ii) CARICOM-EU

8th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 20th – 21st February 1997, St. John’s, Antigua and Barbuda

The Post-Lomé IV Caribbean-EU Relationship: Community’s Approach Considered

“The Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community together with the President of the Dominican Republic and the President of the Republic of Haiti held a Retreat at Jumby Bay, Long Island, to consider the Caribbean approach to the relationship with the European Union after the expiry of the Lomé IV Convention. The participation of the Dominican Republic and the Republic of Haiti signals the involvement of all CARIFORUM Member States in the preparation process. These two Governments pledged to be part of the process which CARICOM had initiated with respect to the preparation for the negotiations of a successor agreement to Lomé IV. Heads of Government reaffirmed that the Caribbean placed significant importance on the Region’s relationship with the EU and that they were determined to maintain and enhance that relationship following the expiry of Lomé IV.

They also reaffirmed the Region's intention to maintain solidarity with the wider ACP Group as a single, cohesive entity in their future relationship with the EU and restated the commitment of the Caribbean countries to work for a new ACP-EU arrangement that reflects their needs and interests as well as those of other ACP countries.

The Heads of Government acknowledged that the increasing globalisation of the world economy and hemispheric developments, including the initiative towards the creation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas, could, conceivably, have implications for the Region's future relationship with the European Union. They expressed their determination to enter into any economic or political relationship that would enhance or contribute to the development of the Region. In that regard, they did not consider their various relationships with Europe, with the proposed FTAA or with any other grouping to be mutually exclusive. They decided on policy guidelines for the formulation of Caribbean positions for negotiating the ACP-EU relationship following the expiry of the Lomé IV Convention.

The Heads of Government expressed the view that any further ACP-EU relationship following the expiry of the Lomé IV Convention, should safeguard the Sugar, Rum and Banana Protocols, as well as to protect and improve the trade arrangements for rice.

They further expressed the view that the post-Lomé arrangements should contain provisions to facilitate development in new and critical areas, including the services sector and the enhancement of the Region's competitiveness in order to deal with the new circumstances arising from global liberalisation in respect of the trade in goods and services.

The Heads of Government acknowledged the direct financial support extended by the European Union to Caribbean ACP States under successive Conventions. They noted that the EU

was the largest source of grant aid to the Region. Post-Lomé arrangements should seek to preserve these gains.

They recognised that in addition to the debt burden of many Caribbean ACP countries, the changes in the global economy would require adjustments at considerable cost to their fragile economies. To enhance the capability of Caribbean countries to successfully undertake those adjustments, the Heads of Government agreed to explore within the context of the negotiations for a successor ACP-EU Agreement, all possibilities for enhanced financial support from the European Union through existing and new instruments.

The Heads of Government determined that the Caribbean preparatory process for negotiations on the future arrangements would involve, in addition to governments, the Associated States and the social partners.”

**18th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30th June – 4th July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica**

**Meeting with EU Commissioner for Development:
Caribbean Approach to Elements of Successful Convention to Lomé IV Explained**

“Heads of Government exchanged views with Professor Joao de Deus Pinheiro, Commissioner for Development, European Union. Participating in the discussions were the Presidents of the Dominican Republic and Haiti and Minister of Industry and Commerce of Zimbabwe, who attended as the special representative of President Mugabe of Zimbabwe, which currently holds the Presidency of the ACP Council. The Cuban Minister of Trade attended as an Observer in solidarity with the CARIFORUM Group.

Heads of Government outlined the general philosophy and specific views of the Caribbean on the approach to, and various elements of, a successor Convention to Lomé IV. Commissioner

Pinheiro welcomed the ACP intention to negotiate the successor Convention as a unified group. Professor Pinheiro outlined his vision for the Convention and the process underway in the EU to develop a definitive position. He laid emphasis on the changed international environment in which the successor Convention will be negotiated and underscored his belief that the concept of ownership would be an essential component in any successor arrangement. The Commissioner was positive and largely in unison with the views expressed by CARIFORUM Heads of Government.

The Zimbabwean Minister stressed the importance of ACP solidarity and of sustained efforts to maintaining cohesion in the face of efforts to undermine the Group. He recalled that it was on the basis of solidarity that the Lomé Convention had been achieved and he expressed the confidence that should this be maintained, the successor arrangement to Lomé IV will be as satisfactory as the earlier Conventions. The Minister pointed to CARICOM's impressive history of integration and that information acquired and lessons learned during his visit would be transmitted to the African Region to President Mugabe whose country currently occupies the Presidency of the OAU as well as the ACP."

**10th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 5th March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname**

**ACP-EU Negotiations for a Successor Arrangements to the Lomé IV Convention:
Concern over Negotiating Guidelines**

"The Heads of Government were apprised of the latest developments regarding the European Union approach to the forthcoming negotiations for a successor agreement to the Fourth ACP-EU Convention. Concern was expressed over the thrust of the draft negotiating guidelines prepared by the European Commission. The Heads of Government agreed that the implications

of those guidelines for Caribbean countries, if adopted, warranted action at the highest political levels in the Region to sensitise the European Member States and the European Commission of Caribbean concerns. Heads of Government also agreed to continue efforts to preserve and strengthen ACP solidarity by undertaking visits to selected African ACP states. Heads of Government underscored the necessity for greater involvement of ACP capitals in the forthcoming negotiations and for this to be reflected in the structure to be established by the ACP for the conduct of the negotiations. The Heads of Government also welcomed submissions on proposed Caribbean negotiating positions received from the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC) and trade organisations in respect of the successor agreement to Lomé IV.”

**22nd Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 6th July 2002, Nassau, The Bahamas**

ACP-EU Waiver Request for the Cotonou Agreement: WTO Failure

“Heads of Government were very disturbed at the failure of the Council for Trade of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) at its Meeting on 5 July 2001, to agree to begin the consultation on the European Union request for the waiver for the Cotonou Agreement and the new banana regime.

They were also concerned to learn of a proposal to amend the waiver request to the WTO for the Cotonou Agreement which would have the effect of precluding access of ACP bananas under the Bound ‘A’ quota and the autonomous ‘B’ quota and of confining the preference for ACP bananas (Quota ‘C’) to the duty-free concession and only to 31 December 2005.

They were disappointed that some Latin America banana exporting countries had sought to delay the approval of the waiver on technical grounds.

Heads of Government expressed their appreciation to those WTO members which support the urgent consideration of the waiver request, and urged Ecuador, the United States and other WTO member countries, to join the movement for an expeditious and favourable decision on the waiver request.”

- **Banana Regime**

10th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4th – 5th March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

Banana Import Regime: Concern over US Action

“Heads of Government expressed grave concern over the continued action by the United States and other countries, at the WTO, to destroy the EU banana import regime and the disastrous consequences that this action would have on Caribbean economies and societies.

They deplored the US Government’s decision to unilaterally impose sanctions on a wide range of EU products exported to the USA in response to the revised EU banana import regime and agreed to review their co-operation with the United States under the Caribbean-US Partnership for Prosperity and Security.

In this regard, Heads of Government agreed to issue the following statement:

**Statement on the United States Unilateral Imposition of Sanctions
Against the European Union Banana Import Marketing Regime**

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean Community, meeting in Paramaribo, Suriname, deplore the precipitate unilateral action of the United States to impose sanctions against the European Union (EU) over its Banana Import Regime. This unauthorised and illegal action undermines the World Trade Organisation (WTO) and threatens the economic survival and social and political stability of several Caribbean countries.

The European Union modified its Banana Import Regime radically and implemented the new Regime on 1 January 1999, in full compliance with the ruling of the WTO. The United States' unilateral action has no basis in the WTO. Firstly, that Organisation now has underway a binding arbitration procedure to determine the merits of the proposed remedy by the United States. It has requested additional information which the United States has not yet provided. Secondly, the WTO, under the emergency procedures of its dispute settlement mechanism, currently has two Panels determining the conformity of the new EU Regime with its original ruling. It is the only Body which can determine compliance with its rulings and is due to announce its findings by 6 April 1999. The United States is therefore in flagrant violation of the Rules and Procedures of the WTO.

The banana industry is of vital economic interest to the Caribbean and the present United States action will destroy that industry. Europe is the Region's only export market and the Region's share of that market accounts for only 2 percent of world trade in bananas. Despite that minuscule share of the trade, the banana industry is a major earner of foreign currency and provider of employment for several Caribbean countries.

Heads of Government have, on several occasions over the last five years, explained to President Clinton the disastrous consequences for the Caribbean of any precipitous disruption of its banana market in Europe. Recognising their mutual interest, Caribbean Heads of Government and President Clinton agreed upon and signed a "Partnership for Prosperity and Security in the Caribbean" in Bridgetown, Barbados in May 1997. In that Bridgetown Accord, the Caribbean and the United States explicitly agreed "to work with all concerned parties to achieve mutually satisfactory marketing arrangements for Caribbean bananas, recognising the critical importance to Caribbean countries of the continued access of Caribbean bananas to the traditional markets of the

European Union”. They also recognised “the inextricable link between trade, economic development, security and prosperity” in their societies. The United States’ recent action thus strikes at the very heart of the partnership with the Caribbean – its security and prosperity – and calls into question the entire partnership agreement.

The countries of the Caribbean Community have agreed to immediately review the Bridgetown Accord to determine the basis for continued co-operation.”

6th Special Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 16th April 1999, Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

Statement on Bananas by CARICOM Heads of Government: Principled Position of EU

“Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community at the Sixth Special Meeting of the Conference held on 16th April 1999 in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, reviewed the impact on the Caribbean Community of the rulings by the WTO Panel on the revised European Union Banana Regime.

The Heads reiterated their deep appreciation of the firm and principled position taken by the European Union in responding to the challenges of the Regime. They noted that in so doing, the Member States of the EU had stood by their commitments under the Lomé Convention.

The Heads of Government noted that a regulated EU market for bananas had brought benefits to all concerned. They concluded that the rulings represented the single most dangerous threat to the economies of the Caribbean banana exporting countries and that the implementation of the Panel’s rulings, without consideration to the vulnerability of the Caribbean banana industry, would lead to severe social and economic dislocations throughout the Region.

They noted that the various recommendations by the Panel, on making the Banana Regime WTO consistent, would, if implemented, be detrimental to the Caribbean and other ACP States.

They recalled that the Panel had recognised in its ruling, that the fundamental principles and rules of the WTO are designed to foster development, not destroy it and that the system is flexible enough to allow appropriate policy responses in a wide variety of circumstances to countries that are heavily dependent on the production and commercialization of bananas. The Heads noted that these principles are in fact no different from those enshrined in the Lomé Convention.

Recognising the importance of achieving an early and lasting solution of these matters – not least in the interest of the people of the Caribbean whose livelihood is under threat – the Heads of Government have charged their technical team to urgently complete its analysis of the Panel’s rulings. They agreed that the Caribbean will seek to work closely with the ACP banana exporting countries of Africa to fashion an ACP response, which safeguards their shared interests.

Heads of Government are convinced that with real political will on all sides and an understanding by all concerned of the manifold interests at stake, a fair settlement is attainable. To that end, CARICOM Heads of Government agree as a matter of urgency that they will hold discussions on these issues with leaders of the European Union, the United States, the wider Caribbean and with other interested parties.”

iii) CARICOM-Latin America Relations

**21st Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

CARICOM-Latin America: Strengthening Institutional Ties

“Heads of Government reviewing the impact of current international developments on the Community, the Conference considered a number of proposals for improving coordination of foreign policy among Member States, and towards the achievement of joint approaches to a number of urgent international issues and decided that these matters should be considered at a meeting of Foreign Ministers scheduled to be held in the early part of 1976.

In this context the Conference gave particular attention to the role of a number of recently established Latin American/Caribbean institutions including Latin American Economic System (SELA), Caribbean Multinational Maritime Transportation Enterprise (NAMUCAR) and Caribbean Development Corporation Committee (CDCC) and to the position of the CARICOM countries at forthcoming international conferences including the Group of 77 in Nairobi and the Non-Aligned Summit in Colombo.

With regard to any external trade and economic agreements which could adversely affect intra-regional trade and the complementary development of key sectors of the economies of the Caribbean Common Market, the Conference decided that the practice should be introduced that any Member State entering into such an agreement should consult, wherever possible in advance, with other Member States either directly or through the Secretary-General himself.”

**5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas**

**CARICOM/Latin America Relations:
Supporting Guyana’s and Belize’s Territorial Integrity and Sovereignty**

“Heads of Government welcomed the decision of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to amend its constitution to assure the right of Belize and Guyana to membership in that Organisation by 1990. In reaffirming the need for full adherence to the principle of universality

of membership, Heads of Government called for the elimination of exclusionary provisions in other regional treaties and arrangements.”

**9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 8th July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua**

CARICOM-Latin America Relations: Strengthening Ties

“The Heads of Government reviewed the Community’s relations with Latin America during the past year, and reaffirmed their desire to strengthen those relations, particularly in the areas of trade and economic co-operation.

They noted that all CARICOM States, Members of the Organisation of American States had ratified the Protocol of Cartagena which is designed to permit the entry of Belize and Guyana to the OAS. The Heads urged those OAS Member States which have not yet done so, to ratify the Protocol at the earliest opportunity.”

**10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3rd – 7th July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada**

CARICOM-Latin America Relations: Process Intensifies

‘The Heads of Government reaffirmed the Community’s interest in the development of closer relations with Latin America and looked forward to the early intensification of that process.

Recalling their previous appeals to Member States of the Organisation of American States (OAS) to ratify the Protocol of Cartagena, they noted with great satisfaction that a sufficient number had ratified the Protocol to enable it to come into force, thus paving the way for the removal of the unjust impediment to membership of the OAS for Belize and Guyana contained in the OAS Charter.

The Heads of Government reiterated their demand that similar steps be taken to remove the corresponding provisions of the Treaty of TLATELOLCO.”

**12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 4th July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts**

CARICOM-Central America Relations: Bilateral and Regional Contacts

‘The Heads of Government noted the intensification of relations between CARICOM and Latin American States at both the bilateral and regional levels. Heads noted, with particular satisfaction, the joint activities of CARICOM and Latin America States since the entry of CARICOM into the Rio Group and looked forward to the strengthening of these relations.”

4th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 22nd – 23rd March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

Relations with Venezuela: One-way Free Trade Agreement

‘The Heads of Government noted with satisfaction that the one-way free trade agreement with Venezuela was now in force. It was also noted that the Fourth Meeting of the CARICOM/Venezuela Joint Council on Trade and Investment is to be convened shortly.

In keeping with their commitment to deepen the integration process, the Heads of Government agreed to explore opportunities for the establishment of closer relations with the countries of Latin America. In this context, they accepted a proposal from the Government of Colombia which took account of the difference in the economic development of the respective countries.”

**14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5th – 8th July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas**

Relations with Latin America: Continuing Positive Development

“Heads of Government welcomed the intensification of CARICOM relations with Latin America. They expressed their appreciation of the effective representation of the Region’s interest within the Rio Group by Jamaica and accepted the offer of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to assume the representational role from 1994. They also reviewed with satisfaction the continuing development of relations between the Community and the members of the Group of Three at both the individual and collective levels. Heads of Government were pleased to learn from the President of the Andean Development Corporation of the growing ties being forged between the Corporation, now including Chile and Mexico, and the countries of the Caribbean Community and such regional and hemispheric organisations as the SKLA and the OAS. The importance of an early conclusion of a Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement between the Community and Columbia was emphasised in the context of the overall development of CARICOM-Latin America relations.”

**15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1993, Bridgetown, Barbados**

Relations with Columbia: Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation

“Heads of Government welcomed the outcome of the negotiations with the Republic of Columbia on an Agreement on Trade, Economic and Technical Co-operation which was concluded in June 1994. They welcomed this Agreement as an opening of additional avenues for business people and investors from the Region to pursue activities with other countries within the hemisphere. They took particular note that this agreement provided special conditions for the Less Developed Countries of CARICOM.

Heads of Government recognised active participation of CARICOM within the Rio Group through the representation of its interests by Trinidad and Tobago for the three years commencing January 1994, following that of Jamaica whose three-year term ended in December 1993.

Heads of Government were brought up to date by Trinidad and Tobago on the Rio Group's deliberations in respect of issues involving the environment and sustainable development, poverty, marginalisation, administrative integrity and human rights, among others, and of the Group's support for the United States proposal to convene a Western Hemispheric Summit in Miami in December 1994, and of its preparations for participation in the United Nations Summit on Social Development in March 1995 in Copenhagen."

8th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 20th – 21st February 1997, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

Emissary from MERCUSOR: Integration of the Sub Region

'The Minister expressed his appreciation for the invitation that had been extended to him to address the Conference and indicated that his acceptance of that invitation had also been in the context of strengthening relations between Uruguay and the Region which was considered a natural partner of Latin America.

The evolution of MERCOSUR was outlined, together with the role of Uruguay in that sub-regional integration process. The achievements of MERCOSUR, its structure, as well as its policy of outreach, including Central America and the Caribbean, were also reviewed. The Emissary also indicated the MERCOSUR supported *greater co-ordination efforts towards the consolidation of integration between both blocs, in order to promote economic and social development and to acquire greater strength and bargaining power for hemispheric and international negotiations with third parties*. The Emissary expressed the intention of Uruguay to open a diplomatic mission

in the Caribbean and to pursue a process of permanent dialogue with the Region through this medium as well as through the diplomatic representations in Washington among other channels.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Trinidad and Tobago welcomed the presence of the Emissary of MERCOSUR as well as his positive statement on the perspectives for the future development of relations between Uruguay and Member States and CARICOM, as well as between MERCOSUR and CARICOM. The Foreign Minister drew attention to the shared features of Uruguay and the Member States of CARICOM in the integration process by reference to the relative size of the respective economies and the determination to implement economic reform in recognition of the contemporary global realities. The basis objective, he postulated, was to ensure that the hemispheric integration process was effectively concluded for the benefit of all. The role being played by MERCOSUR as a major pole of hemispheric integration was recognised.

The Prime Minister of Jamaica remarked on the historical coincidence by virtue of which the Emissary of MERCOSUR to CARICOM had come from Uruguay, given the commonalities in size, economic potential and economic policies of the respective countries.

The opportunity for direct dialogue among the respective countries as a result of their own initiatives as evidenced by the present encounter was to be accorded very high value. Co-operation induced by this kind of interaction would be an asset as both sub-regions sought to engage in meaningful dialogue towards the implementation of the FTAA.

The Prime Minister welcomed the intention of the Government of Uruguay to establish bridges of co-operation through *inter alia*, the institutionalisation of a diplomatic presence in the Caribbean and through existing arrangements for similar representation particularly in Washington. Perspectives on technical co-operation in areas such as human resource development, education, science and technology, health and cultural and youth exchanges were

articulated. The Prime Minister wished to be associated with the welcome that had been extended to the Emissary and expressed the hope that the result of this initial meeting will be substantial in historical perspective.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA), which facilitated the development of contacts between CARICOM and MERCOSUR, expressed satisfaction at having been invited to witness the historic encounter aimed at intensifying relations between CARICOM and MERCOSUR. He traced the antecedents of the encounter to certain recent events which had at least been co-sponsored by SELA or for which a SELA activity had provided an appropriate environment.

CARICOM and MERCOSUR were viewed as dynamic participants in the hemispheric integration process and, at the sub-regional level, could pursue co-operation in, *inter alia*, investment, transfer of technology and security issues, including the production, traffic and use of illicit drugs.”

**20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago**

**European Union/Latin America and the Caribbean Summit:
Democracy, Human Rights, Globalisation**

“Heads of Government expressed their satisfaction at the outcome of the First EU-Latin America and the Caribbean Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 28-29 June 1999. The broad range of issues discussed at the Summit included matters of particular interest to CARICOM States such as democracy, human rights, globalisation and its impact on small economies, financial services, the banana issue, education and the environment. They reiterated their support for the new strategic partnership between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean as expressed in

the Declaration signed by Heads of Government. Heads of Government also welcomed Spain's offer to host the next EU-Latin America and the Caribbean Summit."

**15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados**

North American Free Trade Agreement: Implications for CARICOM

"Heads of Government received an interim report on a study, mandated at their Fifth Inter Sessional Meeting in March 1994, on the implications of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) for existing and longer-term trade and economic relations of CARICOM Countries with their principal partners, its impact on the regional economy, and on possible CARICOM response to environment created by this new trade bloc. They agreed that it would be in CARICOM's interest to negotiate an arrangement for an entry into NAFTA and that, with the involvement of the social partners, early steps were needed to ensure that the Region was adequately prepared for the process of negotiation of accession.

They reaffirmed the commitment of CARICOM Member States to approach the question of their relations with NAFTA as a unified group, while recognising that individual Member States may need different provisions and timetables to accommodate their particular interests.

Heads of Government reviewed the measures proposed under the draft UN Interim Trade Programme and welcomed this programme as a move in the right direction and as an attempt to resolve at least part of the problem, particularly in relation to apparel. They noted that the proposals do not give all that Caribbean countries had asked for. They agreed, however, that the Region would further pursue improved access conditions with respect to the items listed and those currently not benefiting from the Programme, in particular petroleum products.

The Heads of Government agreed that CARICOM should work towards securing an arrangement which would provide for trade, investment flows, debt relief, financial assistance in the areas of diversification and retraining of personnel and short-term employment opportunities especially for the heavily indebted countries and the LDCs.”

10th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4th – 5th March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

Preparations for the Second Summit of the Americas: Representation at High Levels

“The Conference received a report from the Chairman of the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee on External Negotiations on the Development of the Strategy for Co-operation in the Americas; preparation for the Fourth Trade Ministerial Meeting on the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA) and for the Second Summit of the Americas. The Conference also received the Foreign Minister of Chile who outlined the status of preparations for the Santiago Summit and identified the major thrusts anticipated for that hemispheric meeting.

The Conference noted the path envisaged for the final preparatory phase of the Summit and emphasised the need for thorough preparation on the part of the Region at every stage.

The Conference reiterated the need for the Region to focus on selected critical issues in the Summit, to de-emphasise the division between economic and non-economic issues, to link progress in the FTAA negotiations with progress in critical “non-FTAA issues” such as Science and Technology, Capital Market Development and Finance. They also reiterated the necessity to provide for the implementation of the recommendations of the report of the Working Group on Small Economies.

The Conference agreed that the Caribbean would continue to participate in the negotiations for the FTAA and to be represented at appropriately high levels at the forthcoming meetings in the Summit of the Americas process.”

7th Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 26th – 27th October 1999, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago

External Relations: Lomé, FTAA, WTO

“Heads of Government received progress reports on the status of negotiations in which the Region is involved, namely a successor agreement to the Lomé IV Convention, and the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), as well as preparations for the upcoming round of WTO negotiations. They noted the complexity of the inter-relationship among these negotiations.

They welcomed the recent breakthrough in the trade aspects of the post-Lomé IV negotiations resulting from discussions between the European Union (EU) and ACP Ministerial negotiating teams.

With respect to the FTAA negotiations, Heads of Government expressed grave concern about the seeming absence of real commitment on the part of the rest of the hemisphere to the concerns of small economies. In this regard, in keeping with the fundamental principle adopted in the 1994 Miami Declaration of the First Summit of the Americas, and reaffirmed in the Second Summit of the Americas in Santiago in 1988, CARICOM delegations attending the forthcoming FTAA Ministerial Meeting in Toronto were mandated to insist that the inclusion of the special and differential treatment for small economies be part of the programme of each negotiating group before the launch of actual negotiations.

With regard to the WTO negotiations, Heads of Government endorsed the strategic approach to be pursued by CARICOM at the WTO Ministerial Meeting in Seattle, as recommended by the Prime Ministerial Sub-Committee, on the basis of submissions from the Regional Negotiating Machinery (RNM).

Heads of Government expressed their appreciation to the RNM for its contribution in advancing the position of the Region in the various multilateral negotiations in which it is engaged.”

- **POLITICAL RELATIONS**

- **Controversy and Border Disputes**

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, 3rd February 1969, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Guyana/Venezuela

“On Wednesday afternoon and again today the Heads of Government discussed common problems of security in the Commonwealth Caribbean. The Conference heard from the Prime Minister of Guyana an account of recent developments in Guyana’s relations with Venezuela. The Conference was gravely concerned over the most recent threats posed to Guyana’s territorial integrity and at the most recent instances of interference in her internal affairs as reported by the Prime Minister. The Conference considered that this situation constitutes a serious danger to the peace of the area and deplored any action of an aggressive or hostile nature calculated to further endanger a peaceful resolution of outstanding difficulties. Participating Governments pledged to do all in their power to ensure a settlement of the controversy by peaceful means and in accordance with agreed procedures.”

11th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 13th – 14th March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts

Guyana-Venezuela Relations: Peaceful Settlement under the aegis of UN

“Heads of Government reiterated their continued desire for a peaceful settlement to the controversy under the aegis of the United Nations Secretary General.

Heads of Government noted with satisfaction the continued improvement in functional co-operation and relations in general between Guyana and Venezuela with the establishment of the High Level Bilateral Commission between the two countries.

In restating their firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana they recalled the decision of the Commonwealth Heads of Government in Durban, South Africa in November 1999, to establish a Ministerial Group on Guyana to monitor further developments in respect of the existing controversy.”⁴²

**5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4th – 7th July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas**

Belize/Guatemala: Territorial Integrity and Sovereignty

“Noting a Statement by the Prime Minister of Belize that Guatemala has persisted in its refusal to recognise the independence of territorial integrity of Belize, Conference also called on the international community to maintain its support for Belize in its efforts to secure an early and peaceful resolution of the problem.

Conference noted that the continued existence of exclusionary provisions in some regional treaties and arrangements was contrary to the principle of universality of membership and that

(a) ⁴² Further references to this matter will be found in Section IV

such provisions effectively limit the ability of some States to fully participate in the overall development of the Region. It called for the early removal of these exclusionary provisions so that those States which desire to adhere to these treaties and arrangements might be enabled to do so.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and Grenadines**

Belize/Guatemala: Belize Right to Sovereignty

“Heads of Government received a report from the Prime Minister of Belize on the recent reactivation of Guatemala’s territorial claim.

They recalled the Statement on the border dispute between Belize and Guatemala issued at their Eleventh Inter-Sessional Meeting on 14th March 2000 at Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis. Heads of Government also recalled United Nations General Assembly Resolution 35/20 of 11 November 1980 which reaffirmed the inalienable right of the people of Belize to self-determination, independence and territorial integrity and called on all parties concerned to respect that right. They further recalled that in 1991 the Republic of Guatemala recognised the independence and sovereignty of Belize, and further, that the Government of Guatemala has stated that it will not resort to the use of threat or use of force to pursue its claim.

Heads of Government were therefore deeply disturbed upon learning of Guatemala’s refusal to recognise the border and the repeated incidents of incursions upon Belize’s territory by elements of Guatemala’s Armed Forces, in flagrant violation of the norms of International law.

Heads of Government reaffirmed the Community’s unequivocal support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Belize in accordance with its long established and internationally recognised borders.

They noted that technical level meetings between the two countries had taken place in Washington D.C., USA, with the support of and in the presence of the Secretary-General of the Organisation of American States (OAS). Heads of Government expressed their concern that the confidence-building measures to ease tension along the common border and to establish a definitive settlement of the dispute, agreed to at these technical level meetings, had not yet been embarked upon. They urged Guatemala to honour these agreements to ensure a climate favourable to a peaceful resolution of the border dispute.

Heads of Government urged both parties to continue genuine and serious political dialogue to arrive at a definitive settlement to the long standing dispute, in accordance with the principles and practices of the United Nations and with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Belize.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and Grenadines**

Guyana and Suriname Maritime Boundary Dispute

“The Heads of Government affirmed the vital importance of settling this dispute by peaceful means in accordance with the spirit of the Treaty of Chaguaramas and the need to ensure that the benefits of existing resources in the area redound to the benefit of their respective peoples.

The Conference recognised that both Guyana and Suriname are signatories to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea which establishes a two hundred mile Exclusive Economic Zone beyond the limits of the Coastal States' Territorial Sea.

It recognised that wherever States have contiguous borders, there will likely exist an area mutually exclusive to both States which create a joint interest in the area of overlap.

It was accepted that the settlement of claims by both Parties in their respective Exclusive Economic Zone is contingent on the final settlement of the border dispute and Conference recalled, that a mechanism for the settlement of outstanding border disputes exists for the purposes of delineating the territorial boundaries between both States.

Both Guyana and Suriname expressed their commitment to the earliest resolution of outstanding Border claims and pledged to act in good faith to accomplish this end. They further restated their intention to reconvene their Joint Border Commissions for dialogue in respect of these claims.

The Presidents of Guyana and Suriname agreed to meet in Jamaica within the next seven days in order to expedite a resolution of outstanding differences which has recently arisen. They also agreed to determine a modality for exploiting the benefits of the exploratory drilling activities to be undertaken in the disputed area.

In this connection, they noted a number of proposals raised earlier, which include:

- The establishment of a Joint Commission to undertake the granting of licensing activities in the area;
- the joint superintendence of any and all activities to be carried out in the area;
- the sharing of any data and information resulting from the exploratory activities in the area being placed on a transparent basis;
- the equitable distribution of the proceeds deriving from any exploitative activities in the area.

These and other proposals constitute elements, which could facilitate an acceptable framework for full agreement.

Both Guyana and Suriname made it clear that the right of any underlying claim subsisting in the area would be preserved without prejudice.

It was also accepted that they will have to procure the concurrence of their constitutional and institutional bodies before arriving at a final agreement.

The Heads of Government were pleased to offer the good offices of the Chairman of Conference to monitor the progress of meetings related to the Joint Border Commissions.

The Conference welcomed the assurances by the Presidents of Guyana and Suriname that they would do everything possible to avoid the escalation of tension, and work towards restoration of normalcy in their relations as befit sister nations in the Community. They further undertook to pursue all modalities for the strengthening and deepening of relations between them.”

- **POLITICAL INTERVENTIONS:**

- **In Defence of Electoral Democracy**

11th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community , 31st July – 2nd August 1990, Kingston Jamaica
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Situation in Trinidad and Tobago: Democracy and Sanctity of Parliament

“Heads of Government unreservedly condemned the assault of the constitutional democracy, the rule of law and the sanctity of the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and the holding hostage of Prime Minister A. N. R. Robinson, members of his Cabinet, Parliamentarians and other persons.

They noted with deep relief and satisfaction the freeing of the persons held as hostages, the taking into custody of their captors and the bringing to an end of the crisis in Trinidad and Tobago.

They also noted with satisfaction the quick response of Member States in the despatching of disciplined forces to Barbados to await deployment to Trinidad and Tobago, if required, and placed on record their deep appreciation of the action taken by the Government of Member States of the Community in rendering assistance to another Member State of the Community in time of emergency.

Heads of Government recognised that events such as the crisis in Trinidad and Tobago highlighted the vulnerability of Small States to threats from terrorism.

They agreed on the necessity to review existing arrangements in support of regional security and decided to establish a Committee of Member States to look into the matter and report before the Twelfth Meeting of Conference.”

9th Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 2nd - 3rd March 1998, St. George's, Grenada

Statement on Guyana: Building Institutions of Democracy

“Heads of Government considered the situation in Guyana in a spirit of concern for all its people as fellow citizens of the Caribbean Community. In so doing they congratulated the Chairman and members of the Bureau on their timely response to the situation, as well as the members of the 'peace' Mission that went to Guyana with the specific approval and support of the leaders of the two main political parties. They expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the Mission in facilitating the conclusion by those leaders of the 'Herdmanston Accord' and congratulated them on their wise and courageous action in that regard. They also acknowledged the roles of the Special Facilitator and of the CARICOM Secretariat in making the Accord possible.

Heads of Government specifically recognised that CARICOM is itself a signatory to the Accord and reaffirmed their commitment to furthering its implementation. They called on the political leaders in Guyana to remain faithful to the Accord in all respects, and on all Guyanese to support them in this course. They attach particular importance to the roles of the minor political parties in this regard and have valued the consultations with them.

Heads of Government were unequivocal in their condemnation of acts of violence of the kind that occurred on the occasion of the Opening of Parliament and a resort to violence generally. Guyana must not be diverted from the path that leads to a reduction of tensions and the promotion of harmony. In this context, CARICOM Heads recalled the special significance of the Joint Statement by the two leaders on the signing of the Accord in which they invited all Guyanese "to be motivated by a spirit of serious endeavour as we strive to develop a cohesive society and an environment in which our country's political, social and economic problems can be constructively resolved."

Heads of Government reaffirmed their commitment to the Parliamentary process as a means of building confidence in the institutions of democracy in Guyana.

Mindful that the Accord is 'without prejudice to any judicial process arising out of the 15 December 1997 elections' and that such processes are actually now pending before the courts, CARICOM Heads of Government stressed their belief that the realisation of the terms and objectives of the Accord remain fundamentally important to the achievement of the goals to which the two leaders have committed themselves – an achievement which is vital to the future of Guyana itself and of much importance to the wider CARICOM family of which it is so valued a member.

They called specially, therefore, for all parties to facilitate the electoral audit agreed to be carried out as a matter of urgency 'under CARICOM auspices', and for which CARICOM had now

made all necessary preparations. They welcomed most warmly the indication from the President of Guyana that her Government will proceed with the expeditious enactment of the enabling legislation now textually agreed between the two main parties so that the agreed audit may begin as envisaged.

Recognising that some Heads of Government have already visited Guyana in furtherance of the commitment given in the Accord that CARICOM will remain engaged, they pledged their continuing personal readiness to assist the people of Guyana in all practicable ways. They believe, however, that the essential need now was for an effective dialogue to be promoted between Guyana's political leadership at the highest level. They charged the Bureau with the task of facilitating this through further consultation and discussion. The long-term resolution of Guyana's problems was for the people of Guyana; but CARICOM would keep watch with its member country through the arduous process leading to reconciliation.”

Situation in Haiti and Suriname: Concern for Democracy

“The Community did express its concern when democracy came under threat in both Haiti and Suriname. At the Ninth and Thirteenth Conferences of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, it expressed its concern about the situations in Haiti and Suriname. Indeed in the former case it dispatched a Mission to that country to ensure the continuation of democratic ideals and practices.”

**9th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4 – 8th July 1988, St. Johns, Antigua**

Suriname: Return to Representative Democracy

“The Heads of Government expressed satisfaction with the recent political developments in Surinam and welcomed that country’s return to representative democracy. They expressed their

support for Suriname's effort to obtain international assistance within a framework of national sovereignty, for the fulfillment of its development aspirations.”

**16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4 – 7th July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana**

Suriname: Stability and Democracy

“Heads noted recent developments in Suriname and stressed the importance of instituting arrangements that promoted political stability and democracy in that country, so as to preserve and strengthen its relations with CARICOM and with the wider hemispheric community.”

**13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29th June – 2nd July 1992, Trinidad and Tobago**

Haiti: Lack of Democracy

“Heads of Government were pleased to hold audience with President Jean Bertrand Aristide of Haiti during the course of their Meeting and to receive from him and the Secretary-General of the OAS a status report/update on development in Haiti.

They deplored the fact that the return of the democratically elected Government of Haiti had not yet been realised despite the several resolutions passed at the level of the OAS General Assembly on initiatives aimed at isolating the illegal regime in Haiti and to restore democracy in that country. They noted with regret that these Resolutions, including that contained in the Nassau Agreement had not been fully implemented by all OAS Member States and urged countries, party to these Resolutions, to introduce as a matter of priority, legislation which would enable the provisions of the Nassau Agreement to be upheld.

In doing so they also called on the international community to continue to support the principle of the evolution of democracy in Haiti. They reiterated their support for the Protocol signed at Washington under the auspices of the OAS as the basis of resolving the conflict.

Heads of Government reiterated the special concern of the people of the Caribbean Community for the people of Haiti and looked forward to the day when Haitian people would once more enjoy their democratic rights. In this regard they expressed concern over the plight of the Haitian Refugees and welcomed the assistance granted by UNHCR. They reiterated the call made upon the International Financial Institutions as well as donor countries, by their Foreign Ministers, to make available the necessary resources to assist in the development of Haiti once agreement has been reached for the restoration of constitutional Government.

Heads of Government decided to pursue a new initiative by seeking to mobilise the resources of the United Nations to assist in resolving the Haitian crisis, and agreed to pursue this objective through the OAS.”

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 4 – 7th July 1994, Bridgetown Barbados
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Haiti: Political Crisis

“Heads of Government again discussed the situation in the Republic of Haiti, and expressed their grave concern that, notwithstanding the numerous efforts by the international community to resolve the political crisis, the illegal regime has persistently refused to relinquish control of the governmental apparatus and to allow the constitutionally elected President of Haiti to function.

In declaring their abhorrence at the increasing acts of violence, the numerous killings, and the many violations of human rights committed against the Haitian people, Heads of Government

also expressed their deep concern about the continuing exodus of persons fleeing Haiti under extremely hazardous conditions, and called on the international community to do all in its power to resolve the problem.”

**21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2nd – 5th July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines**

St. Vincent and the Grenadines: Follow-up to the Grand Beach Accord

“Heads of Government noted the strong views expressed at the Opening Ceremony of the Conference which decried any unconstitutional actions designed to remove a duly-elected government from office.

They received the Report of the CARICOM Mission to St. Vincent and the Grenadines, as well as the legal opinion submitted by Mr. Maurice King, former Attorney-General of Barbados and a member of the CARICOM Mission, on the constitutional issues arising from the passage of the Pensions and Gratuities Bill for Parliamentarians. They regarded the opinion as a basis for bringing the issues to a successful conclusion. Accordingly, they noted that the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines will submit these documents to the Christian Council, as required by the Grand Beach Account of May 4, 2000.”

TREATY
establishing the
CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY
Chaguaramas, 4th July 1973

PREAMBLE

The Governments of the Contracting States,

Determined to consolidate and strengthen the bonds which have historically existed among their peoples;

Sharing a common determination to fulfil the hopes and aspirations of their peoples for full employment and improved standards of work and living;

Conscious that these objectives can most rapidly be attained by the optimum utilisation of available human and natural resources of the Region by accelerated, co-ordinated and sustained economic development, particularly through the exercise of permanent sovereignty over their natural resources; by the efficient operation of common services and functional co-operation in the social, cultural, educational and technological fields; and by a common front in relation to the external world;

Convinced of the need to elaborate an effective regime by establishing and utilising institutions designed to enhance the economic, social and cultural development of their peoples;

Have agreed as follows:

Chapter One

PRINCIPLES

Article 1

Establishment of the Caribbean Community

By this Treaty the Contracting Parties establish among themselves a Caribbean Community (hereinafter referred to as “the Community”) having the membership, powers and functions hereinafter specified.

Article 2

Membership

1. Membership of the Community shall be open to

(a)(i) Antigua

- (ii) Bahamas
- (iii) Barbados
- (iv) Belize
- (v) Dominica
- (vi) Grenada
- (vii) Guyana
- (viii) Jamaica
- (ix) Montserrat
- (x) St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla
- (xi) St. Lucia
- (xii) St. Vincent
- (xiii) Trinidad and Tobago

(b) any other State of the Caribbean Region that is in the opinion of the Conference able and willing to exercise the rights and assume the obligations of membership in accordance with Article 29 of this Treaty.

2. States listed in paragraph 1(a) of this Article the Governments of which sign this Treaty in accordance with Article 22 and ratify it in accordance with Article 23 shall become Member States of the Community.

Article 3

Definition of Less Developed Countries and More Developed Countries

For the purposes of this Treaty the States specified in paragraph 1(a) (iii), (vii), (viii)) and (xiii) of Article 2 shall be designated More Developed Countries and the remainder listed in the said paragraph 1(a), other than the Bahamas, shall be designated Less Developed Countries until such time as the Conference otherwise determine by majority decision.

Article 4

Objectives of the Community

The Community shall have as its objectives –

- (a) the economic integration of the Member States by the establishment of a common market regime (hereinafter referred to as “the Common Market”) in accordance with the provisions of the Annex to this Treaty with the following aims:-
 - (i) the strengthening co-ordination and regulation of the economic and trade relations among Member States in order to promote their accelerated harmonious and balanced development;
 - (ii) the sustained expansion and continuing integration of economic activities, the benefits of which shall be equitably shared taking into account the need to provide special opportunities for the Less Developed Countries;
 - (iii) the achievement of a greater measure of economic independence and effectiveness of its Member States in dealing with states, groups of states and entities of whatever description;
- (b) the co-ordination of the foreign policies of Member States; and
- (c) functional co-operation, including –
 - (i) the efficient operation of certain common services and activities for the benefit of its peoples;
 - (ii) the promotion of greater understanding among its peoples and the advancement of their social, cultural and technological development;
 - (iii) activities in the fields specified in the Schedule and referred to in Article 18 of this Treaty.

Article 5

General Undertaking as to Implementation

Member States shall take all appropriate measures, whether general or particular to ensure the carrying out of obligations arising out of this Treaty or resulting from decisions taken by the Conference and Institutions of the Community. They shall abstain from any measures which could jeopardise the attainment of the objectives of this Treaty.

Chapter Two

ORGANS OF THE TREATY

Article 6

Principal Organs

The principle organs of the Community shall be –

- (a) the Conference of Heads of Government (hereinafter referred to as “the Conference”);
- (b) the Common Market Council established under the Annex (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”).

Article 7

The Conference

Composition

The Conference shall consist of the Heads of Government of Member States.

Any member of the Conference may, as appropriate, designate an alternate to represent him at any meeting of the Conference.

Article 8

Functions and Powers

1. The primary responsibility of the Conference shall be to determine the policy of the Community.
2. The Conference may establish, and designate as such, institutions of the Community in addition to those specified in paragraphs (a) to (g) of Article 10 of this Treaty, as it deems fit for the achievement of the objectives of the Community.
3. The Conference may issue directions of a general or special character as to the policy to be pursued by the Council and the Institutions of the Community for the achievement of the objectives of the Community, and effect shall be given to any such directions.

4. Subject to the relevant provision of this Treaty, the Conference shall be the final authority for the conclusion of treaties on behalf of the Community and for entering into relationships between the Community and International Organisations and States.
5. The Conference shall take decisions for the purpose of establishing the financial arrangements necessary for meeting the expenses of the Community and shall be the final authority on questions arising in relation to the financial affairs of the Community.
6. The Conference may regulate its own procedure and may decide to admit at its deliberations observers, representatives of non-Member States or other entities.
7. The Conference may consult with entities and other organisations within the region and for this purpose may establish such machinery as it deems necessary.

Article 9

Voting In The Conference

1. Each member of the Conference shall have one vote.
2. The Conference shall make decisions and recommendations by the affirmative vote of all its members.
3. A decision shall be binding upon each Member State to which it is directed. A recommendation shall have no binding force. Where, however, a Member State fails to observe a recommendation of the Conference, it shall submit a report to the Conference as early as practicable and in any event not later than six months thereafter, giving reasons for its non-compliance.
4. For the purposes of this Article, abstentions shall not be construed as impairing the validity of decisions or recommendations of the Conference provided that not less than three-quarters of its members including at least two of the More Developed Countries vote in favour of any decision or recommendation.

Article 10

Institutions of the Community

Institutions of the Community shall be –

- (a) the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health
- (b) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education
- (c) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Labour
- (d) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs
- (e) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Finance
- (f) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Agriculture
- (g) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Mines
- (h) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Industry
- (i) the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Transportation
- (j) any other institution that may be established and designated as such by the Conference in accordance with Article 8.

Article 11

Composition of Institutions of the Community

1. Each Institution of the Community as set out in paragraphs (a) to (i) of Article 10 of this Treaty shall consist of representatives of Member States. Each Member State shall designate a Minister of Government as its representative on each such Institution.
2. Where the Minister designated under paragraph 1 of this Article is unable to attend a meeting of the Institution the Member State may designate any other person as an alternate to attend such meeting in his stead.
3. Where the Conference establishes any other Institutions in the exercise of the power conferred on it by paragraph 2 of Article 8 of this Treaty, the composition of such Institution shall be determined by the Conference.

Article 12

Functions and Powers

1. Subject to the relevant provisions of Article 8 of this Treaty, the Institutions of the Community shall formulate such policies and perform such functions as are necessary for the achievement of the objectives of the Community within their respective spheres of competence.

2. The Institutions of the Community may regulate their own procedure and –
 - (a) may establish such subsidiary committees, agencies and other bodies as they consider necessary for the efficient performance of their functions; and
 - (b) may decide to admit at their deliberations observers, representatives of non-Member States or other entities.

Article 13

Voting in Institutions

1. Each Member State represented on an Institution shall have one vote.
2. Unless otherwise provided for, decisions of an Institution shall be made by an affirmative vote of all its members. For the purposes of this paragraph, abstentions shall not be construed as impairing the validity of decisions of an Institution provided that not less than three-quarters of its members including at least two of the More Developed Countries vote in favour of such decisions.
3. Recommendations shall be made by a two-thirds majority vote of all its members including at least two of the More Developed Countries and shall have no binding force. Where a Member State fails to observe a recommendation of an Institution in whole or in part, it shall submit a report to the Institution making the recommendation as early as practicable and in any event not later than six months after receiving notice of such recommendation giving reasons for its non-compliance.
4. Observers at meetings of Institutions shall not have the right to vote.

Article 14

Associate Institutions

1. The following institutions shall be recognised as Associate Institutions of the Community -
 - (a) The Caribbean Development Bank;
 - (b) the Caribbean Investment Corporation;

- (c) the West Indies Associated States Council of Ministers;
- (d) the East Caribbean Common Market Council of Ministers;
- (e) the Caribbean Examinations Council;
- (f) the Council of Legal Education;
- (g) the University of Guyana;
- (h) the University of the West Indies;
- (i) the Caribbean Meteorological Council;
- (j) the Regional Shipping Council;
- (k) any other institution designated as such by the Conference.

2. The Community shall seek to establish such relationships with its Associate Institutions as will promote the achievement of its objectives.

Article 15

The Community Secretariat

1. The Commonwealth Caribbean Regional Secretariat shall be recognised as the Community Secretariat. The Community Secretariat (hereinafter referred to as “the Secretariat”) shall be the principal administrative organ of the Community. The headquarters of the Secretariat shall be located in Georgetown, Guyana.

2. The Secretariat shall comprise a Secretary-General and such staff as the Community may require. The Secretary-General shall be appointed by the Conference (on the recommendation of the Council) for a term not exceeding 5 years and may be reappointed by the Conference. He shall be the chief administrative officer of the Community.

3. The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Conference, the Council and of the Institutions of the Community. The Secretary-General shall make an annual report to the Conference on the work of the Community.
4. In the performance of their duties the Secretary-General and his staff shall neither seek nor receive instructions from any government whether of Member States or otherwise or from any other authority. They shall refrain from any action which might reflect on their position as officials of the Community, and shall be responsible only to the Community.
5. Each Member State undertakes to respect the exclusively International character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and his staff and shall not seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities.
6. The Conference shall approve the Staff Regulations governing the operations of the Secretariat.
7. The Secretary-General shall approve Staff Rules for the operation of the Secretariat.

Article 16

Functions of the Secretariat

The functions of the Secretariat shall be as follows –

- (a) to service meetings of the Community and any of its Institutions or Committees as may from time to time be determined by the Conference;
- (b) to take appropriate follow-up action on decisions made at such meetings;
- (c) to initiate, arrange and carry out studies on questions of economic and functional co-operation relating to the region as a whole;
- (d) to provide services to Member States at their request in respect of matters relating to the achievement of the objectives of the Community;
- (e) to undertake any other duties which may be assigned to it by the Conference or any of the Institutions of the Community.

Chapter Three

CO-ORDINATION AND FUNCTIONAL CO-OPERATION

Article 17

Co-ordination of Foreign Policies

1. To the end that Member States aim at the fullest possible co-ordination of the foreign policies within their respective competences and seek to adopt as far as possible common positions in major international issues there is hereby established a Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Foreign Affairs.
2. The Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the Governments of Member States represented on the Committee.
3. Only Member States possessing the necessary competence with respect to matters under consideration from time to time may take part in the deliberations of the Committee.
4. Where after the coming into force of the Treaty a Member State achieves full sovereign status such State shall elect whether it wishes to be bound by the provisions of this Article.
5. The recommendations of the Committee shall be made by an affirmative vote of all the Member States competent and participating in the deliberations.
6. The provisions of Article 13 shall not apply to this Article.

Article 18

Functional Co-operation

Without prejudice to the requirements of any other provisions of this Treaty, Member States in furtherance of the objectives set out in Article 4 of this Treaty, undertake to make every effort to co-operate in the areas set out in the Schedule to this Treaty.

Article 19

Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of this Treaty, unless otherwise provided for and particularly in Articles 11 and 12 of the Annex, shall be determined by the Conference.

Chapter Four

GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 20

Legal Capacity

1. The Community shall have full juridical personality.
2. Each Member State shall in its territory accord to the Community the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under its municipal laws including the capacity to acquire and transfer moveable and immovable property and to sue and be sued in its own name. In any legal proceedings the Community shall be represented by the Secretary-General of the Secretariat.
3. The Community may enter into agreement with Member States, non-Member States and International Organisations.
4. Each Member State hereby agrees to take such action as is necessary to make effective in its territory the provisions of this Article and shall promptly inform the Secretariat of such actions.

Article 21

Privileges and Immunities

1. The privileges and immunities to be recognised and granted by the Member States in connection with the Community shall be laid down in a Protocol to this Treaty.
2. The Community shall conclude with the Government of the Member States in which the Headquarters of the Secretariat is situated an agreement relating to the privileges and immunities to be recognised and granted in connection with the Secretariat.

Article 22

Signature

1. This Treaty shall be open for signature on the 4th July, 1973 by any State mentioned in paragraph 1(a) of Article 2 of this Treaty.

Article 23

Ratification

This Treaty and any amendments thereto shall be subject to ratification by the Contracting States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretariat which shall transmit certified copies to the Government of each Member State.

Article 24

Entry into Force

This Treaty shall enter into force on the 1st August 1973; if instruments of ratification have been previously deposited in accordance with Article 23 of this Treaty by the States mentioned in Article 2 paragraph 1(a) (iii), (vii), (viii) and (xiii), and if not, then on such later date on which the fourth such instrument has been so deposited.

Article 25

Registration

This Treaty and any amendments thereto shall be registered with the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Article 26

Amendments

1. Save as otherwise provided for in Article 66 of the Annex, upon a decision of the Conference for this purpose, this Treaty may be amended by the Contracting Parties.
2. Any such amendment shall enter into force one month after the date on which the last of the instruments of Ratification is deposited.
3. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 hereof no amendments may be made to the Treaty prior to May 1, 1974.

Article 27

Withdrawal

1. A Member State may withdraw from the Community by giving notice in writing to the Secretariat and the Secretariat shall promptly notify the other Member States. Such withdrawal shall take effect 12 months after the notice is received by the Secretariat.
2. A Member State so withdrawing undertakes to honour any financial obligations duly assumed during its membership of the Community.

Article 28

Negotiation and Conclusion of Agreements

1. For the Purpose of negotiating agreements, the Conference may designate any institution of the Community to carry out negotiations.
2. Unless otherwise determined by the Conference in any particular case, the conclusion of agreements by the Community shall be undertaken by the Conference.

Article 29

Accession to the Treaty

1. Any State or Territory of the Caribbean Region may apply to the Conference to become a member of the Community and may, if the Conference so decides, be admitted to membership in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. Admission to membership shall be upon such terms and conditions as the Conference may decide and shall take effect from the date on which an appropriate instrument of accession is deposited with the Secretariat.

Article 30

Associate Membership

1. Any State which in the opinion of the Heads of Government Conference is qualified for membership of the Community in accordance with paragraph 1(b) of Article 2 of this Treaty may, upon application to the Conference for associate membership of the Community, be admitted as an associate member of the Community in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. On an application made under paragraph 1 of this Article the Conference shall determine the conditions under which the applicant State may be associated with the Community.

Article 31

Saving

1. Member States that are not also members of the Common Market shall not be entitled to participate in the decisions taken under the Treaty relating to the Common Market.
2. Decisions taken under this treaty requiring such action shall be subject to the relevant constitutional procedures of the respective Member States.
3. Where necessary, Member States undertake to take steps as expeditiously as possible to give full effect in law to all decisions of the organs and institutions of the Community which are binding on them.

4. Member States shall not participate in decisions with respect to the subject of which they do not possess the necessary competence.

Article 32

Status of the Annex and Schedule

The Annex and Schedule to this Treaty shall form an integral part of this Treaty.

Article 33

General Provisions of the Common Market

The provisions of the Annex shall govern the establishment, membership and operation of the Common Market.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have affixed their signatures below this Treaty.

Done at Chaguaramas on the fourth day of July in the year one thousand nine hundred and seventy-three.

Signed by ERROL W. BARROW
For the Government of Barbados on 4th July, 1973.

Signed by L.F.S. BURNHAM
For the Government of Guyana on 4th July, 1973.

Signed by MICHAEL MANLEY
For the Government of Jamaica on 4th July, 1973.

Signed by ERIC WILLIAMS

For the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on 4th July, 1973.

ANNEX TO THE TREATY

THE CARIBBEAN COMMON MARKET

PREAMBLE

The Governments of the Contracting States:

NOTING that the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Free Trade Association had expressly foreshadowed “the ultimate creation of a viable economic community of Caribbean Territories.”

RECOGNISING that over the past five years the Caribbean Free Trade Association has laid the foundation for further progress in regional economic integration;

MINDFUL of their different levels of development and of the need to enable all Member States to share equitably in the benefits of regional economic integration;

CONVINCED that closer economic integration among Member States will contribute to the creation of a viable economic community of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries;

ACKNOWLEDGING that it is the intention to establish a Common External tariff as an integral feature of the Caribbean Common Market;

HAVE AGREED as follows:

Chapter One

PRINCIPLES

Article 1

Establishment of the Caribbean Common Market

There is hereby established a Caribbean Common Market (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Common Market’) which shall have the membership, powers and functions hereinafter specified.

Article 2

Membership

1. (a) Membership of the Common Market shall be open to –

- (i) Antigua
- (ii) Barbados
- (iii) Belize
- (iv) Dominica
- (v) Grenada
- (vi) Guyana
- (vii) Jamaica

(viii) Montserrat

(ix) St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

(x) St. Lucia

(xi) St. Vincent

(xii) Trinidad and Tobago

- (b) any other State of the Caribbean Region that is in the opinion of the Conference of Heads of government (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Conference’) mentioned in Article 6 of the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community, able and willing to exercise the rights and assume the obligations of membership in accordance with Article 65 of this Annex.

2. States listed in paragraph 1(a) of this Article the Governments of which are parties to the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community (hereinafter referred to as the ‘Treaty’) shall become members of the Common Market, and in this Annex the term Member States shall, unless the context otherwise requires, refer to Members of the Common Market.

Article 3

Objectives of the Common Market

The Common Market shall have as its objectives –

- (a) the strengthening, co-ordination and regulation of the economic and trade relations among Member States in order to promote their accelerated harmonious and balanced development;
- (b) the sustained expansion and continuing integration of economic activities, the benefits of which shall be equitably shared taking into account the need to provide special opportunities for the Less Developed Countries;

- (c) the achievement of a greater measure of economic independence and effectiveness of its Member States in dealing with states, groups of states and entities of whatever description.

Article 4

General Undertaking as to Implementation

Member States shall take all appropriate measures, whether general or particular, to ensure the carrying out of the obligations arising out of this Annex or resulting from decisions taken by the Organs and Institutions of the Common Market. They shall facilitate the achievement of the objectives of the Common Market. They shall abstain from any measures which could jeopardise the attainment of the objectives of this Annex.

Chapter Two

ORGANS OF THE COMMON MARKET

THE COUNCIL

Article 5

Establishment

1. There shall be established a Common Market Council (hereinafter referred to as “the Council”) which, subject to paragraph 3 of Article 8 of the Treaty, shall be the principal organ of the Common Market.
2. Each Member State shall be represented on the Council.

Article 6

Composition

1. The Council shall consist of one Minister of Government designated by each Member State.
2. Where the Minister designated under paragraph 1 of this Article is unable to attend a meeting of the Council the Member State may designate any person as an alternate to attend in his stead.

Article 7

Functions and Powers

1. The Council shall, in order to ensure the achievement of the objectives set out in this Annex and in accordance with the provisions thereof, be responsible for:

- (a) exercising such powers and performing such duties as are conferred or imposed upon it by this Annex;
- (b) ensuring the efficient operation and development of the Common Market including the settlement of problems arising out of its functioning;
- (c) keeping this Annex under constant review with a view to making proposals to the Conference for the progressive development of the Common Market;
- (d) receiving and considering references alleging breaches of any obligations arising under this Annex and deciding thereon;
- (e) considering what further action should be taken by Member States and the Common Market and making proposals to the Conference to facilitate the establishment of closer economic and commercial links with other States, association of States or international organisations.

2. The Council may regulate its own procedure including the establishment of such committees and other bodies as it may deem necessary to perform its functions and may decide to admit to its deliberations observers, representatives of non-Member States or other entities.

Article 8

Voting

1. Each Member State represented on the Council shall have one vote.

2. Except in so far as this Annex provides otherwise, decisions and recommendations of the Council shall be made by an affirmative vote of all its representatives.

3. A decision shall be binding upon each Member State to which it is directed. A recommendation shall have no binding force.

4. For the purposes of this Article, abstentions shall not be construed as impairing the validity of decisions or recommendations of the Council provided that not less than two-thirds of all Member States including at least two of the More Developed Countries vote in favour of any decision or recommendation.

5. References in this Annex to majority vote shall be construed as requiring the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of all Member States including at least two of the More Developed Countries.

Article 9

The Common Market Secretariat

The Secretariat referred to in Article 15 of the Treaty shall be the Secretariat responsible for the administrative functions of the Common Market.

Article 10

Functions of the Secretariat

The Secretariat shall –

- (a) service meetings of the Common Market and any of its Committees;
- (b) take appropriate follow-up action on decisions made at such meetings;
- (c) initiate, arrange, and carry out studies on questions of economic integration relating to the region;
- (d) provide services to Member States at their request in respect of matters relating to the achievement of the objectives of the Common Market;

- (e) undertake any other duties which may be assigned to it by the Council.

Article 11

Disputes Procedure Within the Common Market

1. If any Member State considers that any benefit conferred upon it by this Annex or any objective of the Common Market is being or may be frustrated and if no satisfactory settlement is reached between the Member States concerned any of those Member States may refer the matter to the Council.
2. The Council shall promptly, make arrangements for examining the matter. Such arrangements may include a reference to a Tribunal constituted in accordance with Article 12 of this Annex. The Council shall refer the matter at the request of any Member State concerned to the Tribunal. Member States shall furnish all information which may be required by the Tribunal or the Council in order that the facts may be established and the issue determined.
3. If in pursuance of the foregoing provisions of this Article the Council or the Tribunal, as the case may be, finds that any benefit conferred on a Member State by this Annex or any objective of the Common Market is being or may be frustrated, the Council may, by majority vote, make to the Member State concerned such recommendations as it considers appropriate.
4. If a Member State to which a recommendation is made under paragraph 3 of this Article does not or is unable to comply with such recommendation the Council may, by majority vote, authorise any Member State to suspend in relation to the Member State which has not complied with the recommendation the application of such obligations under this Annex as the Council considers appropriate.
5. Any Member State may at any time while any matter is under consideration under this Article request the Council to authorise, as a matter of urgency, interim measures to safeguard its position. If the matter is being considered by the Tribunal such request shall be referred by the Council to the Tribunal for its recommendation. If it is found by a majority vote of the Council that the circumstances are sufficiently serious to justify interim action, and without prejudice to any action which it may subsequently take in accordance with the preceding paragraphs of this Article, the Council may, by majority vote, authorise a Member State to suspend its obligations under this Annex to such an extent and for such period as the Council considers appropriate.

Article 12

Reference to Tribunal

1. The establishment and composition of the tribunal referred to in Article 11 of this Annex shall be governed by the following provisions of this Article.
2. For the purposes of establishing an *ad hoc* tribunal referred to in Article 11 of this Annex, a list of arbitrators consisting of qualified jurists shall be drawn up and maintained by the Secretary-General. To this end, every Member State shall be invited to nominate two persons, and the names of the persons so nominated shall constitute the list. The term of an arbitrator, including that of any arbitrator nominated to fill a vacancy, shall be five years and may be renewed.
3. Each party to the dispute shall be entitled to appoint from the list an arbitrator to an *ad hoc* tribunal. The two arbitrators chosen by the parties shall be appointed within 30 days following the date on which the notification was received by the Secretary-General. The two arbitrators shall within 15 days following the date of the last of their own appointments, appoint a third arbitrator from the list who shall be the chairman; as far as practicable the chairman shall not be a national of any of the parties to the dispute.
4. Where the first two arbitrators fail to appoint a chairman within the period prescribed, the Secretary-General shall within 15 days following the expiry of that period appoint a chairman. If any party fails to appoint an arbitrator within the period prescribed for such an appointment, the Secretary-General shall appoint an arbitrator within 15 days following the expiry of such a period. Any vacancy shall be filled in the manner specified for the initial appointment.
5. Where more than two Member States are parties to a dispute, the parties concerned shall agree among themselves on the two arbitrators to be appointed from a list. In the absence of such appointment within the prescribed period, the Secretary-General shall appoint a sole arbitrator whether from the list or otherwise, for the purpose.
6. An *ad hoc* tribunal shall decide its own procedure and may, with the consent of the parties to the dispute, invite any party to this Annex to submit its views orally or in writing.
7. The Secretary-General shall provide the *ad hoc* tribunal with such assistance and facilities as it may require.
8. The expenses of the *ad hoc* tribunal shall be defrayed in such a manner as determined by the Council.

9. Member States undertake to employ the procedures set out in this Article for the settlement of any dispute specified in paragraph 1 of Article 11 and to refrain from any other method of disputes settlement.

Chapter Three

TRADE LIBERALISATION

Article 13

Exclusion from this Annex

1. Subject to the provisions of this Article, nothing in this Annex shall be taken to prevent the Member State concerned from imposing import duties or quantitative restrictions on the products listed in Schedule 1 to Annex for such periods as are specified therein for the purpose of giving effect to any undertaking by such Member States respecting import duties or quantitative restrictions.
2. Each Member State shall take all responsible steps to open to it in connection with any undertaking referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article in order to implement any of its obligations under this Annex respecting import duties or quantitative restrictions on such products.
3. Where no expiry date is specified in Schedule 1 to this Annex, the Member State concerned shall take all reasonable steps open to it to implement any of its obligations in respect of commodities under this Annex respecting corresponding import duties or quantitative restrictions on such products at the earliest practicable date.
4. Where in consequence of any Member State availing itself of any exemption under paragraphs 1 to 3 any other Member State considers that a benefit conferred on it by this Annex respecting import duties or quantitative restrictions on such products is being or may be frustrated, that other Member State may refer the matter to Council.
5. Upon reference under paragraph 4 of this Article the Council may, unless the matter is otherwise resolved, authorise upon such terms and conditions as it thinks fit the Member State making the reference to suspend, in relation to the Member State availing itself of the exemption, the performance of such of its obligations in respect of commodities under this Annex respecting import duties or quantitative restrictions on such products as the Council considers appropriate.
6. The Council shall keep under continuous review the observance by Member States of the provisions of paragraphs 2 and 3 of this Article and may from time to time, by majority vote,

recommend to any Member State such measures as it thinks fit for the purposes of those paragraphs.

Article 14

Common Market Origin

1. Subject to the provisions of this Article, in this Annex goods that are consigned from a Member State to a consignee in another Member State and that comply with either of the following conditions shall be treated as being of Common Market origin, that is to say, the goods must —

- (a) have been wholly produced within the Common Market; or
- (b) have been produced within the Common Market wholly or partly from materials imported from outside the Common Market or of undetermined origin by a process which effects a substantial transformation characterised –
 - (i) by the goods being classified in a tariff heading different from that in which any of those materials is classified; or
 - (ii) in the case of the goods listed in Part A of the List in Schedule II (hereinafter referred to as “the List”), only by satisfying the conditions therefor specified in that Part; or
 - (iii) in the case of goods listed in Part C of the List, by satisfying the conditions therefor specified in that Part.

2. In the case of goods specified in Part B of the List, the conditions to be complied with shall be as set out in that Part of the List with effect from the dates appearing against the respective goods in lieu of the conditions applicable prior to those dates in respect of each of those goods.

3. In the case of the goods specified in Part C of the List, the conditions set out in that Part are alternative to the conditions set out in paragraph 1(b) (i) of this Article.

4. The Council in respect of the goods of tariff heading ex 62.02 may, upon a request by any of the Less Developed Countries, review the conditions to be complied with.

5. Goods which undergo a process of repair, renovation or improvement within the Common Market having been consigned for that purpose from a Member State to a consignee in another Member State shall, on their return to the Member State whence they were exported, be treated for the purpose of re-importation only in like manner as goods which are of Common Market origin, provided that the goods are reconsigned directly to the Member State whence they were exported and the value of materials imported from outside the Common Market or of undetermined origin which have been used in the process of repair, renovation or improvement does not exceed —

- (a) in the case where the goods have undergone the process of repair, renovation or improvement in a More Developed Country, 65 per cent of the cost of repair, renovation or improvement;
- (b) in the case where the goods have undergone the process of repair, renovation or improvement in a Less Developed Country, 80 per cent of the cost of repair, renovation or improvement.

6. Where there is an interruption or inadequacy of supplies of regional materials and the manufacturer of goods, for which the qualifying condition for Common Market origin is that of “wholly produced” or “produced from regional materials” is unable by reason of circumstances beyond his control to obtain supplies of the regional materials, he shall so inform the Competent Authority.

7. The Competent Authority shall issue to the manufacturer such directions as to quantities of extra-regional materials and the period during which importation may be effected and the manufacturer may thereupon import extra-regional materials in accordance with such directions.

8. The Competent Authority shall inform the Secretary-General and the supplier of regional materials of the directions given to the manufacturer and the Secretary-General shall within seven days of the receipt of the information from the Competent Authority cause investigations to be made into the circumstances giving rise to the importation of materials from without the Region and upon being satisfied that the importation was justified, issue on behalf of the Council a certificate to the Competent Authority and inform Member States that goods manufactured from such materials shall, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the foregoing provisions of this Article, be deemed to satisfy the qualifying condition for Common Market origin.

9. In this Article, “Competent Authority” means the Minister so designated in the country of the manufacturer.

10. Nothing in this Annex shall prevent a Member State from treating as of Common Market origin any imports consigned from another Member State, provided that the like imports consigned from any Member State are accorded the same treatment.

11. The provisions of Schedule II shall apply to and have effect for the purposes of this Article. The Council shall keep that Schedule and in particular the List under continuous review and may amend the Schedule in order to ensure the achievement of the objectives of the Common Market.

Article 15

Import Duties

1. Except as provided in Article 52 and Schedule III to this Annex Member States shall not apply any import duties on goods of Common Market origin.

2. Nothing in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be construed to extend to the imposition of non-discriminatory internal charges on any products or a substitute not produced in the importing Member State.

3. For the purposes of this Article and Schedule III to this Annex the term “import duties” means any tax or surtax of customs and any other charges of equivalent effect whether fiscal, monetary or exchange, which are levied on imports except duties notified under Article 17 of this Annex and other charges which fall within that Article.

4. Nothing in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be construed to exclude from the application of paragraph 1 of this Article any tax or surtax of customs on any product or a substitute not produced in the importing State.

5. This Article does not apply to fees and similar charges commensurate with the cost of services rendered.

Article 16

Export Drawback

1. Each Member State may refuse to treat as of Common Market origin goods which benefit from export drawback allowed by Member States in which the goods have undergone the

processes of production which form the basis of the claim to Common Market origin. In applying this paragraph, each Member State shall accord the same treatment to imports consigned from all Member States.

2. For the purposes of this Article —

- (a) ‘export drawback’ means any arrangement for the refund or remission, wholly or in part, of import duties applicable to imported materials, provided that the arrangement, expressly or in effect, allows refund or remission if certain goods or materials are exported, but not if they are retained for home use;
- (b) ‘remission’ includes exemption for materials brought into free ports and other places which have similar customs privileges;
- (c) ‘duties’ means
 - (i) all charges on or in connection with importation, except fiscal charges to which Article 17 of this Annex applies; and
 - (ii) any protective element in such fiscal charges;
- (d) ‘materials’ and ‘process of production’ have the meanings assigned to them in Rule 1 of Schedule II to this Annex.

Article 17

Revenue Duties and Internal Taxation

1. Except as provided in Article 52 of and Schedule IV to this Annex Member States shall not —

- (a) apply directly or indirectly to imported goods any fiscal charges in excess of those applied directly or indirectly to like domestic goods, or otherwise apply such charges so as to protect like domestic goods; or
- (b) apply fiscal charges to imported goods of a kind which they do not produce, or which they do not produce in substantial quantities, in such a way as to protect the

domestic production of substitutes which enter into direct competition with them and which do not bear, directly or indirectly, in the country of importation, fiscal charges of equivalent incidence.

2. A Member State shall notify the Council of all fiscal charges applied by it where, although the rates of charge, or the conditions governing the imposition or collection of the charge, are not identical in relation to the imported goods and to the like domestic goods, the Member State applying the charge considers that the charge is, or has been made, consistent with sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph 1 of this Article. Each Member State shall, at the request of any other Member State, supply information about the application of paragraph 1 of this Article.

3. For the purposes of this Article and Schedule IV to this Annex –

- (a) ‘fiscal charges’ means revenue duties, internal taxes and other internal charges on goods;
- (b) ‘revenue duties’ means customs duties and other similar charges applied primarily for the purpose of raising revenue; and
- (c) ‘imported goods’ means goods which are treated as of Common Market origin.

Article 18

Prohibition of Export Duties

1. Member States shall not apply any export duties.

2. Nothing in this Article shall preclude any Member State from taking such measures as are necessary to prevent evasion, by means of re-export, of duties which it applies to exports to territories outside the Common Market.

3. For the purposes of this Article, ‘export duties’ means any duties or charges with equivalent effect imposed on or in connection with the exportation of goods from any Member State to a consignee in any other Member State.

4. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 of this Article, a Member State may for a period not exceeding 5 years from the date of entry into force of this Annex, apply to any commodity listed in Schedule V, export duties not exceeding those applied immediately before that date.

5. Any Member State that, pursuant to paragraph 4 of this Article, applies export duties to any commodity listed in Schedule V shall notify the Council of such duties. The Council shall keep such export duties under review and may at any time by majority vote make recommendations to the Member State concerned so as to avoid as far as possible any adverse consequences on any other Member State.

Article 19

Dumped and Subsidised Imports

1. Nothing in this Annex shall prevent any Member State from taking action against dumped or subsidised imports that conform with any other International obligations.

2. Any products which have been exported from one Member State to a consignee in another Member State and have not undergone any manufacturing process since exportation shall, when re-imported into the first Member State be admitted free of quantitative restrictions or measures with equivalent effect. Such products shall also be admitted free of customs duties or charges with equivalent effect except that any allowance by way of drawback, relief from duty or otherwise, given by reason of the exportation from the Member State, may be recovered.

3. If any industry in a Member State is suffering or is threatened with material injury as the result of the import of dumped or subsidised products into any other Member State, the latter Member State shall, at the request of the former Member State, examine the possibility of taking in conformity with any other international obligations, action to remedy the injury or prevent the threatened injury.

Article 20

Freedom of Transit

1. Products imported into, or exported from, a Member State shall enjoy freedom of transit within the Common Market and shall only be subject to the payment of the normal rates for services rendered.

2. For the purposes of paragraph 1 of this Article, ‘transit’ means transit within the meaning of Article V of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade.

Article 21

Quantitative Import Restrictions

1. Except where otherwise provided in this Annex, and particularly in Articles 13, 23, 24, 28, 29 and 56 in Schedules vii, viii, ix, x and xi, a Member State shall not apply any quantitative restrictions on the import of goods which are of Common Market origin.

2. “Quantitative restrictions” mean prohibitions or restrictions on imports into, or exports from, any other Member State, as the case may be, whether made effective through quotas, import licences or other measures with equivalent effect, including administrative measures and requirements restricting imports or exports.

3. This Article shall not prevent any Member State from taking such measures as are necessary to prevent evasion of any prohibitions or restrictions which it applies to imports from outside the Common Market. In taking action in pursuance of the foregoing provisions, a Member State shall not accord to products imported from other Member States treatment less favourable than that accorded to products imported from third countries.

Article 22

Quantitative Export Restrictions

1. Except where otherwise provided in this Annex, and particularly in Articles 23 and 24 and in Schedules viii, ix and xi a Member State shall not apply any quantitative restrictions on exports to any other Member State.

2. This Article shall not prevent any Member State from taking such measures as are necessary to prevent evasion of any prohibitions or restrictions which it applies to exports outside the Common Market, provided that less favourable treatment is not granted to member States than to countries outside the Common Market.

Article 23

General Exceptions

Nothing in Articles 21 and 22 of this Annex shall prevent the adoption or enforcement by any Member State of measures —

- (a) necessary to protect public morals;
- (b) necessary for the prevention of disorder or crime;
- (c) necessary to protect human, animal or plant life or health;
- (d) necessary to secure compliance with laws or regulations relating to customs enforcement, or to the classification, grading or marketing of goods, or to the operation of monopolies by means of state enterprises or enterprises given exclusive or special privileges;
- (e) necessary to protect industrial property or copyrights or to prevent deceptive practices;
- (f) relating to gold or silver;
- (g) relating to the products of prison labour;
- (h) imposed for the protection of national treasures of artistic, historic or archaeological value;
- (i) necessary to prevent or relieve critical shortages of foodstuffs in any exporting Member State; or
- (j) relating to the conservation of exhaustible natural resources;

but only if such measures are not used as a means of arbitrary or unjustifiable discrimination between Member States, or as disguised restriction on trade within the Common Market.

Article 24

Security Exceptions

1. Nothing in this Annex shall prevent any Member State from taking action which it considers necessary for the protection of its essential security interests.
2. Nothing in this Annex shall prevent any Member State from taking action in pursuance of any obligations to which it is subject for the purpose of maintaining international peace and security.

Article 25

Government Aids

1. Except as provided in this Annex, a Member State shall not maintain or introduce —
 - (a) the forms of aid to export of goods to any other part of the Common Market of the kinds which are described in Schedule vi to this Annex; or
 - (b) any other forms of aid, the main purpose or effect of which is to frustrate the benefits expected from such removal or absence of duties and quantitative restrictions as is required by this Annex.
2. If the application of any form of aid by a Member State, although not contrary to paragraph 1(b) of this Article, nevertheless frustrates the benefits expected from such removal or absence of duties and quantitative restrictions as is required by this Annex, the Council may, by majority vote, authorise any Member State to suspend in relation to the Member State which is applying the aid the application of such obligations under this Annex as the Council considers appropriate, provided always that the procedure set out in paragraphs 3 to 5 of Article 11 of this Annex has been followed.
3. This Article shall not apply in respect of trade within the Common Market in any agricultural products until such time as Member States agree upon a Common Market policy with respect to the production and marketing, including the subsidisation, of agricultural products.

4. The Council may amend the provisions of Schedule vi of this Annex.

Article 26

Public Undertakings

1. Member States shall ensure the elimination in the practices of public undertakings, of
 - (a) measures the effect of which is to afford protection to domestic production which would be inconsistent with this Annex if achieved by means of a duty or charge with equivalent effect or quantitative restrictions or Government aid; or
 - (b) trade discrimination on grounds of territorial origin in so far as it frustrates the benefits expected from such removal or absence of duties and quantitative restrictions as is required by this Annex.
2. In so far as Article 25 of this Annex is relevant to the activities of public undertakings, that Article shall apply to them in the same way as it applies to other enterprises.
3. Member States shall ensure that new practices of the kind described in paragraph 1 of this Article are not introduced.
4. For the purposes of this Article, 'public undertakings' means central, regional, or local government authorities, public enterprises and any other organisation by means of which a Member State by law or in practice controls or appreciably influences imports from, or exports to any other part of the Common Market.
5. This Article shall not apply in respect of trade within the Common Market in agricultural products until such time as Member States agree upon a Common Market Policy with respect to the production and marketing, including the subsidisation, of agricultural products.

Article 27

Co-operation in Customs Administration

Member States shall take appropriate measures, including arrangements regarding administrative co-operation to ensure that the provisions of Article 14, 15, 16 and 17 and Schedules ii, iii, iv of this Annex are effectively and harmoniously applied, taking into account of the need to reduce as far as possible the formalities imposed on trade and of the need to achieve mutually satisfactory solutions of any difficulties arising out of the operation of these provisions.

Article 28

Import Restrictions arising from Balance of Payments Difficulties

1. Notwithstanding Article 21 of this Annex a Member State may, consistently with any international obligations to which it is subject, introduce quantitative restrictions on imports for the purpose of safeguarding its balance of payments.
2. A Member State taking measures in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall notify them to the Council, if possible, before they come into force. The Council shall examine the situation and keep it under review and may at any time by majority vote make recommendations designed to moderate any damaging effect of these restrictions or to assist the Member State concerned to overcome its difficulties. If the balance of payments difficulties persist for more than 18 months and the measures applied seriously disturb the operation of the Common Market, the Council shall examine the situation and may, taking into account the interests of all Member States, by majority vote, devise special procedures to attenuate or compensate for the effect of such measures.
3. A Member State which has taken measures in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article shall have regard to its obligations to resume the full application of Article 21 of this Annex and shall, as soon as its balance of payments situation improves, make proposals to the Council on the way in which this should be done. The Council, if it is not satisfied that these proposals are adequate, may recommend to Member States alternative arrangements to the same end. Decisions of the Council pursuant to this paragraph shall be made by majority vote.

Article 29

Difficulties in Particular Industries

1. If, in a Member State —

- (a) any industry or particular sector of an industry experiences serious difficulties due to a substantial decrease in internal demand for a domestic product; and
- (b) this decrease in demand is due to an increase in imports consigned from other Member States as a result of the establishment of the Common Market,

that Member State may, notwithstanding any other provisions of this Annex —

- (i) limit those imports by means of quantitative restrictions to a rate not less than the rate of such imports during any period of 12 months which ended within 12 months of the date on which the restrictions came into force; the restrictions shall not be continued for a period longer than 18 months, unless the Council, by majority vote, authorise their continuance for such further period and on such conditions as the Council considers appropriate; and
- (ii) take such measures, either instead of or in addition to restrictions of imports in accordance with sub-paragraph (i) of this paragraph, as the Council, may by majority vote authorise.

2. In applying measures in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, a Member State shall give like treatment to imports consigned from all Member States.

3. A Member State applying restrictions in accordance with sub-paragraph (i) of paragraph 1 of this Article shall notify them to the Council, if possible, before they come into force. The Council may at any time consider these restrictions and may, by majority vote, make recommendations designed to moderate any damaging effect of those restrictions or to assist the Member State concerned to overcome its difficulties.

Article 30

Restrictive Business Practices

1. Member States recognise that the following practices are incompatible with this Annex in so far as they frustrate the benefits expected from such removal or absence of duties and quantitative restrictions as is required by this Annex —

- (a) agreements between enterprises, decisions by associations of enterprises and concerted practices between enterprises which have as their object or result the prevention, restriction or distortion of competition within the Common Market;
- (b) actions by which one or more enterprises take unfair advantage of a dominant position within the Common Market or a substantial part of it.

2. If any practice of this kind described in paragraph 1 of this Article is referred to the Council in accordance with Article 11 of this Annex the Council may, in any recommendation in accordance with paragraph 3 or in any decision in accordance with paragraph 4 of that Article, make provision for publication of a report on the circumstance of the matter.

3. (a) in the light of experience, the Council shall, as soon as practicable, consider whether further or different provisions are necessary to deal with the effect of restrictive business practices or dominant enterprises on trade within the Common Market.

(b) Such review shall include consideration of the following matters —

- (i) specification of restrictive business practices or dominant enterprises with which the Council should be concerned;
- (ii) methods of securing information about restrictive business practices or dominant enterprises;
- (iii) procedures for investigation;
- (iv) whether the right to initiate inquiries should be conferred on the Council

- (c) The Council may decide to make the provisions found necessary as a result of the review envisaged in sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of this paragraph.

4. Member States undertake to introduce as soon as practicable uniform legislation for the control of restrictive practices by business enterprises giving particular attention to the practices referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Chapter Four

COMMON PROTECTIVE POLICY

Article 31

Establishment of Common External Tariff

Member States agree to establish and maintain a common external tariff in respect of all commodities imported from third countries in accordance with a plan and schedule to be adopted immediately upon the entry into force of this Annex, provided that —

- (a) In so far as the Less Developed Countries, except Belize and Montserrat, are concerned, their existing Tariffs under the East Caribbean Common Market Agreement shall be deemed as fulfilling their initial obligations in relation to the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market.
- (b) Wherever the Plan and Schedule of rate in the existing Customs Tariff of the East Caribbean Common Market differ from those in the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market, the Plans and Schedules of rates in both the East Caribbean Common Market and the Caribbean Common Market Tariffs will be subject to annual review in the light of the prevailing economic situation of the Less Developed Countries for the purpose of determining the appropriate Plan and Schedule that will be introduced provided that the introduction of such a Plan and Schedule will commence not later than 1st August, 1977 and the phasing period will end not later than 1st August, 1981.
- (c) In so far as Belize and Montserrat are concerned, their existing Tariffs on 1st May, 1974 shall be deemed as fulfilling their initial obligations in relation to the Common External Tariff of the Caribbean Common Market. They shall progressively phase their tariffs in accordance with the annual reviews mentioned in paragraph (b) of this provision; provided that, in the case of Montserrat, the introduction of the Plan and Schedule will commence not later than 1st August, 1981, and the phasing period will end not later than 1st August, 1985.

Article 32

Operation of the Common External Tariff

1. Any alteration or suspension of the Common External Tariff on any item shall be decided by the Council by unanimous vote.
2. During the transitional period in respect of any item, a Member State may decide as a temporary measure to reduce or suspend a duty in its national tariff for the purpose of domestic price control provided that goods originating from Member States on which duties are payable are accorded treatment no less favourable. Any such action shall be promptly reported to the other Member States through the Secretariat. If any Member State so requests, the Council shall hold consultations on the matter and may by majority vote make such recommendations as it considers appropriate to mitigate any damaging effects of such reduction or suspension of duty on the exports of the Member States concerned.
3. Where a commodity is not being produced in one or more Member State or is being produced but in insufficient quantities to satisfy the requirements of the Common Market, the Council may decide to authorise the reduction or suspension of the tariff in respect of imports of that commodity subject to such terms and conditions as it may decide, provided that in no case shall the commodity imported from third countries be accorded more favourable treatment than similar products produced by Member States.
4. Before the 15th August, 1973, every Member State shall notify to the Council the duties applied on all goods imported from non-member countries immediately before the entry into force of this Annex.
5. Upon the expiration of the period of three years from the entry into force of the Common External Tariff the Council shall review such rates as are posing or as are likely to pose difficulties in their application.

Article 33

Treatment of Imports from Third Countries

1. During the transitional period, that is, until the 1st August, 1981, Member States individually or otherwise undertake to pursue such policies regarding quantitative restrictions on imports from third countries as would facilitate the implementation of a common protective policy for the

Common Market as soon as practicable after the transitional period. The Council may make recommendations to Member States for this purpose.

2. As soon as possible after the entry into force of this Annex Member States shall notify to the Council all existing quantitative restrictions applied on imports from third countries. Any new quantitative restrictions shall be promptly notified to the Council.

3. The Council of Ministers shall keep under continuous review the application of quantitative restrictions by Member States whether on an individual, sub-group or Common Market basis and shall make such recommendations to Member States as it considers necessary.

Article 34

External Trade Policy

1. Member States shall seek a progressive co-ordination of their trade relations with third countries or groups of third countries.

2. Member States undertake to transmit to the Secretariat particulars of any trade or aid agreements entered into after the entry into force of this Annex.

Chapter Five

ESTABLISHMENT, SERVICES AND MOVEMENT OF CAPITAL

Article 35

Establishment

1. Each Member State recognises that restrictions on the establishment and operation of economic enterprises therein by nationals of other Member States should not be applied, through accord to such persons of treatment which is less favourable than that accorded in such matters to nationals of that Member State, in such a way as to frustrate the benefits expected from such removal or absence of duties and quantitative restrictions as is required by this Annex.
2. Member States shall not apply new restrictions in such a way that they conflict with the principles set out in paragraph 1 of this Article.
3. A Member State shall notify the Council within such period as the Council may decide of particulars of any restrictions which it applies in such a way that persons belonging to another Member State are accorded in the first-mentioned State less favourable treatment in respect of the matters set out in paragraph 1 of this Article than is accorded to persons belonging thereto.
4. The Council shall consider from time to time, whether further or different provisions are necessary to give effect to the principles set out in paragraph 1 of this Article.
5. Nothing in this Article shall prevent the adoption and enforcement by a Member State of measures for the control of entry, residence, activity and departure of persons where such measures are justified by reasons of public order, public health or morality, or national security of that Member State.
6. For the purpose of this Article and Articles 36 and 38 of this Annex —
 - (a) a person shall be regarded as a national of a Member State if such person:

- (i) is a citizen of that State;
 - (ii) has a connection with that State of a kind which entitles him to be regarded as belonging to, or, if it be so expressed, as being a native or resident of the State for the purposes of such laws thereof relating to immigration as are for the time being in force; or
 - (iii) is a company or other legal person constituted in the Member State in conformity with the law thereof and which that State regards as belonging to it, provided that such company or other legal person has been formed for gainful purposes and has its registered office and central administration, and carries on substantial activity, within the Common Market, and which is substantially owned and effectively controlled by persons falling under (i) and (ii) above.
- (b) “economic enterprises” means any type of economic enterprises for production of or commerce in goods which are of Common Market origin, whether conducted by individuals or through agencies, branches or companies or other legal persons.

Article 36

Right to Provide Services

1. Each Member State agrees as far as practicable to extend to persons belonging to other Member States preferential treatment over persons belonging to States outside the Common Market with regard to the provision of services.
2. For the purposes of this Article the term “services” shall be considered as services for remuneration provided that they are not governed by provisions relating to trade, the right of establishment or movement of capital and includes, in particular activities of an industrial or commercial character, artisan activities and activities of the professions, excluding activities of employed persons.

Article 37

Movement of Capital

The Council shall examine ways and means for the introduction of a scheme for the regulated movement of capital within the Common Market, giving particular attention to the development needs of the Less Developed Countries and shall recommend to Member States proposals for the establishment of such a scheme.

Article 38

Saving in Respect of Movement of Persons

Nothing in this Treaty shall be construed as requiring or imposing any obligations on a Member State, to grant freedom of movement to persons into its territory whether or not such persons are nationals of other Member States.

Chapter Six

CO-ORDINATION OF ECONOMIC POLICIES AND DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Article 39

Consultation on Economic Policies

1. Member States recognise that the economic and financial policies of each of them affect the economies of other Member States and intend to pursue those policies in a manner which serves to promote the objectives of the Common Market, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, Member States shall seek as far as practicable to —

- (i) co-ordinate their economic policies and for this purpose facilitate collaboration between appropriate ministries, administrative departments and agencies;
- (ii) co-ordinate their statistical services in matters affecting the operation of the Common Market; and
- (iii) co-ordinate their positions and presentations at all international economic, financial and trade meetings at which they are represented.

2. The Council may make recommendations to Member States on matters relating to those policies and on how best to achieve such co-ordination and collaboration.

Article 40

Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives

1. Member States shall seek to harmonise such legislation and practices as directly affect fiscal incentives to industry.

2. Member States shall seek also to establish regimes for the harmonisation of fiscal incentives to agriculture and tourism with appropriate differentials in favour of the Less Developed Countries.

3. Member States agree to study the possibility of approximating income tax systems and rates with respect to companies and individuals.

Article 41

Intra-Regional and Extra-Regional Double Taxation Agreements

1. Member States shall approach their negotiations for agreements for the avoidance of double taxation with countries outside the Common Market on the basis of a set of mutually agreed principles.

2. With a view to encouraging the regulated movement of capital within the Common Market, particularly to the Less Developed Countries, Member States agree to adopt among themselves agreements for the avoidance of double taxation.

Article 42

Harmonisation of Laws

1. Member States recognise the desirability to harmonise as soon as practicable such provisions imposed by law or administrative practices as affect the establishment and operation of the Common Market in the following areas:

- (a) companies;
- (b) trade marks;
- (c) patents;
- (d) designs and copyrights;

- (e) industrial standards;
- (f) marks of origin;
- (g) labelling of food and drugs;
- (h) plant and animal quarantine restrictions;
- (i) restrictive business practices;
- (j) dumping and subsidisation of exports.

2. The Council shall keep the provisions of this Article under review and may make recommendations for the achievement of this objective.

Article 43

Monetary, Payments and Exchange Rate Policies

1. Member States undertake to permit within the Common Market freedom of payment on —
 - (a) current account; and
 - (b) capital account necessary to further the objectives of the Common Market.
2. Member States recognising that exchange-rate stability as between themselves is necessary to promote the smooth functioning of the Common Market agree to —
 - (a) a policy of continuing consultation and the fullest possible exchange of relevant information on monetary payments and exchange rate matters, and
 - (b) to examine ways and means of harmonising their monetary and exchange rate and payment policies in the interest of the smooth functioning of the Common Market.
3. Member States further agree —
 - (a) to the policy whereby through arrangements by their Central Banks or Monetary Authorities the notes and coins of other Member States shall be exchanged within their own States at official par value without exchange commission;
 - (b) to develop arrangements for co-operation in other monetary matters including the operation of a clearing arrangement by their Central Monetary Authorities.

Article 44

Ownership and Control of Regional Resources

1. Member States recognise the need for continuing inflows of extra-regional capital and the urgent necessity to promote development in the Less Developed Countries.
2. Member States shall keep under review the question of ownership and control of their resources with a view to increasing the extent of national participation in their economies and working towards the adoption as far as possible of a common policy on foreign investment.

Article 45

Co-ordination of National Development Planning

1. Member States recognise the desirability of a long-term Common Market Perspective Plan as a framework for co-ordinating their development efforts and agree to work jointly in the formulation of such a Plan.
2. In order to promote maximum complementarity between industries and economic sectors of Member States, each Member State agrees to consult with other Member States in drawing up its national medium-term operational development plans. Member States shall establish a Committee of Officials in charge of national planning agencies for the purposes of promoting collaboration in development planning.

Article 46

Common Market Industrial Programming

1. Member States undertake to promote a process of industrial development through industrial programming aimed at achieving the following objectives:
 - (a) the greater utilisation of the raw materials of the Common Market;
 - (b) the creation of production linkages both within and among the national economies of the Common Market;

- (c) to minimise product differentiation and achieve economies of large scale production, consistent with the limitations of market size;
- (d) the encouragement of greater efficiency in industrial production;
- (e) the promotion of exports to markets both within and outside the Common Market;
- (f) an equitable distribution of the benefits of industrialisation paying particular attention to the need to locate more industries in the Less Developed Countries.

2. The Council may make recommendations from time to time to promote achievement of the objectives states in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article 47

Joint Development of Natural Resources

1. Member States agree to a policy of regular exchange of information on their natural resources with a view to the development of joint projects for the increased utilisation of these resources within the Common Market and to collaborate in promoting research in these areas.
2. With a view to facilitating negotiations with mining companies, Member States agree to exchange information on exploration leases, exploitation licences and on taxation of mining companies.
3. The Council advised by the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Mines and Natural Resources may make recommendations for achieving the objectives stated in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article.

Article 48

Marketing of Agricultural Products

1. Member States agree to work towards the rationalisation of trade within the Common Market in certain selected agricultural products having special regard to the agricultural development of the Less Developed Countries.
2. In pursuance of this objective Member States agree to arrangements for the marketing of oils and fats and other agricultural products as set out in Schedules vii, viii and ix to this Annex.
3. The Council may make recommendations for the development of agricultural trade between Member States.

Article 49

Rationalisation of Agricultural Production

1. Member States agree to adopt a scheme for the rationalisation of agricultural production within the Common Market with a view to promoting complementarity in national agricultural programmes and providing special opportunities for the development of agriculture in the Less Developed Countries.
2. The Scheme shall have the following objectives –
 - (a) the development of a regional plan for the integration of agricultural development in the Common Market;
 - (b) the achievement of the optimum utilisation of agricultural resources;
 - (c) the improvement of the efficiency of agricultural production in order to increase the supply of agricultural products for –
 - (i) domestic consumption

- (ii) export to regional as well as extra-regional markets; and
- (iii) inputs for agro-based industries.
- (d) replacement of imports on a regional basis;
- (e) increasing the income and standard of living of the rural population;
- (f) contributing to the achievement of full employment for the peoples of the Common Market;
- (g) the provision of greater opportunities to the Less Developed Countries for the expansion of agricultural production for export to markets within and outside of the Common Market.

3. Member States recognise the desirability of joint action in the exporting of non-traditional agricultural products to countries outside the Common Market and agree to the promotion of schemes towards this objective.

4. With regard to the production of non-traditional agricultural products Member States shall pursue a policy of collaboration with a view to improving productivity and promoting a more efficient allocation of the resources of the Common Market giving special consideration to the need for increasing production in the Less Developed Countries.

5. The Council shall keep this Article under review and shall make recommendations to Member States for achieving its objectives.

Article 50

Co-operation in Tourism

Member States agree to collaborate in the promotion and development of the tourist industry within the Common Market.

Chapter Seven

SPECIAL REGIME FOR THE LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Article 51

Purpose of the Chapter

The provisions of this Chapter shall have effect for the purposes of establishing within the framework of this Annex a special regime for the Less Developed Countries.

Article 52

Import Duties, Revenue Duties and Internal Taxation

For the purposes of Articles 15 and 17 of this Annex the special arrangements contained in Schedules iii and iv to this Annex concerning import duties, revenue duties and internal taxation shall apply to the Less Developed Countries.

Article 53

Common Market Origin

Member States agree that in the determination and operation of the criterion of substantial transformation pursuant to Article 14 of this Annex, the special needs of the Less Developed Countries shall be taken into account.

Article 54

Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives

Member States agree that in the establishment of the Scheme for Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives to Industry provided for in Article 40 of this Annex, the special needs of the Less Developed Countries shall be taken into account.

Article 55

The Common External Tariff and Common Protective Policy

Member States agree that in the establishment of the scheme for a common external tariff provided for in Article 31 of this Annex, the special needs of the Less Developed Countries shall be taken into account.

Article 56

Promotion of Industrial Development in the Less Developed Countries

1. Upon any application made in that behalf by the Less Developed Countries the Council may, if necessary, as a temporary measure in order to promote the development of an industry in any of these States, authorise by majority decision such States to suspend Common Market tariff treatment of any description of imports eligible thereafter on grounds of production in the other Member States.
2. Upon any application made in that behalf by the Less Developed Countries the Council may, if necessary, as a temporary measure in order to promote the development of an industry in any of these States, authorise by majority decision such States to impose quantitative restrictions on like imports from the other Member States.
3. In the light of the special position of Barbados that State may, in relation to trade with the Less Developed Countries, during the period for which the authorisations referred to in paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article are in force, suspend Common Market tariff treatment of, or

apply quantitative restrictions on, the like description of imports from the Less Developed Countries.

4. The Council may, in taking decisions pursuant to paragraphs 1 and 2 of this Article, impose terms and conditions to which such authorisation shall be subject.

5. For the purpose of this Article a majority means a decision supported by the affirmative votes of all the Less Developed Countries and at least two of the More Developed Countries.

Article 57

Government Aids

Paragraphs 1 (a) of Article 25 of this Annex shall not apply to exports from a Less Developed Country except where such exports are consigned to Barbados.

Article 58

Public Undertaking

Paragraph 1 (a) of Article 26 of this Annex shall not apply to the Less Developed Countries.

Article 59

Financial Assistance from More Developed Countries

1. With a view to promoting the flow of investment capital to the Less Developed Countries, the More Developed Countries agree to co-operate in —

- (a) facilitating whether by means of private investment capital or otherwise, joint ventures in those States;
- (b) negotiating double taxation agreements in respect of the income from investments in the Less Developed Countries by residents of other Member States, and
- (c) facilitating the flow of loan capital to the Less Developed Countries.

2. In furtherance of the objectives stated in paragraph 1 above, primary consideration should be given to ventures which are substantially owned and effectively controlled by nationals of Member States within the meaning of Article 35 of this Annex.

3. Member States agree that in order to promote the development of industries in the Less Developed Countries an appropriate investment institution shall be established.

Article 60

Use of Technological and Research facilities in More Developed Countries

The More Developed Countries undertake to provide opportunities for the use of their technological and research facilities by the Less Developed Countries.

Article 61

Special Arrangements for Belize

Without prejudice to any other provision of this Chapter the provisions of Schedule xi to this Annex shall apply for the purpose of establishing additional special arrangements in regard to the participation of Belize in the Common Market.

Article 62

Review of Mechanisms for the Less Developed Countries

The Council shall review annually the need for strengthening existing mechanisms or introducing new ones to provide greater benefits to the Less Developed Countries and shall submit a Report thereon to the Conference.

Chapter Eight

GENERAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 63

Legal Capacity

1. The Common Market shall have international juridical personality.
2. Each Member State shall, in its territory, accord to the Common Market the most extensive legal capacity accorded to legal persons under its municipal law including the capacity to acquire and transfer moveable and immovable property and to sue and be sued in its own name. In any legal proceedings, the Common Market shall be represented by the Secretary-General of the Secretariat.
3. Each Member State hereby agrees to take such action as is necessary to make effective in its territory the provisions of this Article and shall promptly inform the Secretariat of such action.

Article 64

Privileges and Immunities

1. The privileges and immunities to be recognised and granted by the Member States in connection with the Common Market shall be laid down in a Protocol to this Annex.
2. The Common Market shall conclude with the Government of the Member State in which its Headquarters is situated an agreement relating to the privileges and immunities to be recognised and granted in connection with the Common Market.

Article 65

Accession

1. A State, mentioned in paragraph 1(b) of Article 2 of this Annex may become a Member of the Common Market on such terms and conditions as the Conference may determine.
2. Any such State shall deposit on or before a date appointed by the Conference an instrument of accession with the Secretariat which shall transmit certified copies to the Government of each Member State.
3. Upon such deposit the State shall become a member of the Common Market on the appointed date.

Article 66

Amendments

1. Except where this Annex provides otherwise, amendments thereto shall enter into force when they have been approved by the Council and ratified by all Member States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.
2. Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretariat which shall transmit certified copies thereof to each Member State.

Article 67

Recognition of Existing Integration Arrangement within the Common Market

Nothing in this Annex shall effect any decisions or things done under the East Caribbean Common Market Agreement immediately before the coming into force of this Annex or the continued application and development of that Agreement to the extent that the objectives of that Agreement are not achieved in the application of the objectives of this Annex, provided such application or development does not conflict with obligations under this Annex of the Member States which are Parties to that Agreement.

Article 68

Participation in Other Arrangements

Nothing in this Annex shall preclude any Member State from participating in other arrangements to the extent that those arrangements are not incompatible with the obligations of Member States under this Annex.

Article 69

Withdrawal

1. A Member State may withdraw from the Common Market by giving notice in writing to the Secretariat and the Secretariat shall promptly notify the other Member States. Such withdrawal shall take effect twelve (12) months after the notice is received by the Secretariat.
2. A Member State so withdrawing undertakes to honour any financial obligations duly assumed during its membership of the Common Market.
3. A Member State that withdraws from the Treaty in accordance with Article 27 thereof shall, if a member of the Common Market, be deemed to have withdrawn from the Common Market with effect from the expiration of the time limited by the said Article 27.

Article 70

Relations with Other States and International Organisations

1. The Council may, on behalf of the Common Market, negotiate agreements with Member States, non-Member States and other International Organisations in order to promote the objectives of the Common Market.
2. Such agreements, however, shall be subject to ratification by the Conference.

Article 71

Transitional Provisions

On entry into force of this Annex in accordance with the provisions of Article 24 of the Treaty, the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Free Trade Association done at Dickenson Bay, Antigua, on the fifteenth day of December, 1965, and the Supplementary Agreement under Article 31(3) of the former Agreement done at Georgetown, Guyana, on the fifteenth day of March 1968 and at St. John's Antigua, on the eighteenth day of March 1968, shall be superseded by the provisions of this Annex as between the Parties to whom the provisions of this Annex apply.

Article 72

Associate Membership

1. Any state which in the opinion of the Conference is qualified for membership of the Common Market in accordance with Article 2. 1(b) of this Annex may, upon application to the Council for associate membership of the Common Market, be admitted as an associate member of the Common Market in accordance with paragraph 2 of this Article.
2. On any application made under paragraph 1 of this Article the Conference shall determine the conditions under which the applicant State may be associated with the Common Market.

Article 73

Status of Schedules

Schedules to this Annex shall form an integral part thereof.

THE NASSAU UNDERSTANDING

STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT AND CLOSER INTEGRATION FOR ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT IN THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

Heads of Government of Member States in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) meeting in Nassau, 4-7 July 1984, reviewed the Report on “Measures for Structural Adjustment in Member States of the Caribbean Community” prepared at their request by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in consultation with Member Countries, other regional institutions and individuals. They expressed appreciation to the President and staff of CDB for the thorough and penetrating analysis contained in the Report; they were in general agreement with its recommendations.

2. This statement records their understanding of the problem of structural adjustment as well as the policy actions which Governments may take at the National level, together with those that will be initiated through arrangements within the Caribbean Common Market. They also identified specific matters that they will pursue in their external economic relations.

3. This common understanding of the need for policy action is to be set against the recognition that each country will formulate and implement its own programmes appropriate to its particular circumstances, and its perception of the long-term economic and social objectives.

4. A number of countries have already initiated various measures with regard to structural adjustment, incorporating several of the measures outlined in the Document.

STRUCTURAL ADJUSTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

Statement of the Problem

5. Heads of Government recognise that structural adjustment is an integral part of the development process. It essentially involves a conscious and determined shift to a new development path to accelerate development, while adapting to major external or internal shocks to the economic system. These shocks could come about through occurrences such as a sudden and sharp deterioration in the terms of trade; abrupt increases in external debt service; continuing declines in the volumes of major agricultural exports and local food production, and the depletion of a major natural resource.

Similarly, countries which have gone through a period of windfall gains in exporting earnings and incomes face a situation where, after the booming export sector has slowed down, a legacy is left of extremely high expectations for improvements in living standards, while production costs in the rest of the economy have escalated to uncompetitive levels during the boom period. The task facing such countries containing expectations and finding new competitive lines of production is extremely difficult. Other countries are in a situation where their economic problems reflect themselves in the form of protracted fiscal deficits, contraction in imports and economic growth and in the difficulties being experienced in increasing the efficiency of traditional sectors and developing non-traditional sectors.

6. All of these situations have a serious negative impact on the balance-of-payments, which experience shows cannot be eliminated solely by measures to contract demand through drastic reductions in public and private consumption expenditure, the compression of imports, and more restrictive monetary policies.

Demand contraction policies are appropriate where the elements of weakness in the balance-of-payments are reversible in a short period of time. Where balance-of-payments are structural in nature, demand management needs to be accompanied by more direct measures to expand and/or diversify and make more competitive production of goods and services, both for export and for domestic consumption.

In such circumstances, demand contraction policies can amplify the already deflationary effects of the initial shocks, leading to a continuance of slow and even negative growth, however hard Governments may try to change the course of their economies in the direction of faster growth and development. Instead, there is a general decline in confidence characterised by the flight of human and financial capital, reduced production and productivity, and the emergence of a large underground sector in the economy. Governments progressively lose control over economic events which can put the entire economic and social fabric at risk.

7. The intricacies of the development problem in the Caribbean need to be thoroughly understood. Although incomes per head may appear to be high compared to the other developing countries, these rest on rather fragile foundations. In the typical case, the economy is depending on one or two staple activities for the bulk of its income, employment, government revenue, and export earnings. The agricultural sector, in order to raise productivity and to establish efficient mechanisms – particularly with respect to local food production – needs improved skills and appropriate technology. Despite some progress in industrial development, the manufacturing sector has not yet developed strong linkages with the rest of the economy, local entrepreneurship is not broadly based, and the export capacity of the sector is still rudimentary.

8. The productive sectors together are not yet in a position to provide sufficient employment opportunities for the growing labour force. High rates of open unemployment and

underemployment persist, especially among school leavers who are frustrated in the search for jobs and recent migrants to the urban areas. Such economic conditions breed chronic discontent, crime, violence and political extremism, putting at risk and national cohesion and the democratic process itself.

Objectives, Strategies and Macro-Economic Policies

9. The Governments are determined to steer their countries away from a situation of economic and social breakdown. They nonetheless recognise that meaningful adjustment is painful and can be difficult to manage as it may reduce the standard of living of the majority of social groups. Sensitive to the needs of the poor, they intend, within the narrow margins available to them, to adopt measures to cushion the adverse impact of the adjustment process on the most deserving groups in their societies.

10. Governments recognise a very important role for the private sector within a framework of a socially just market economy achieved through the catalytic actions of the government. They call upon all sectors of their populations to view the present economic difficulties as requiring the fullest possible exercise of local initiatives – thereby bringing into play all energies and skills, particularly of the young who are more literate than hitherto, and most adaptable. The Heads are also determined to actively encourage the considerable incipient entrepreneurship which exists in both the rural and urban sectors.

11. They decide that each Government will formulate and implement at the national level a comprehensive programme of support, and provide incentives for the emergence of broadly based local entrepreneurship. Such programmes will include management training, assistance with identifying sources of technology and venture capital, as well as access to the range of commercial and financial services essential for business development – particularly in the export field. In the specific case of the rural sector, Governments commit themselves to further action for the better utilisation of agricultural land and to modernise the sector through determined efforts to develop a broadly based agro-industrial environment.

12. Heads of Government recognise that, despite the difficulties in the international environment, there are unique opportunities to be grasped by local entrepreneurs. The Member States of CARICOM have never had such a wide array of export market opportunities as are now available to them. A determined thrust towards more efficient production and greater orientation towards exports could help to transform the Community into a centre for investment and foreign trade through judicious management of the process. Such investment and trade could increase the resilience of the economies and substantially strengthen their capacities for sustained growth, development and structural transformation.

13. The Heads are mindful that their economies should continue to rely significantly upon market mechanisms to determine prices and the allocation of resources. However, a process of structural change cannot, under Caribbean conditions, be left to evolve through spontaneous forces. The objective of ‘getting prices right’ will be pursued through purposive national planning

that will concretely shape the short and long-term directions through which the economies can attain their maximum growth potential and satisfy basic human needs.

Accordingly, Governments declare their intention to strengthen their machinery for national planning; to involve all sectors of their societies in the process of plan formation, implementation and monitoring; and to strengthen the links between development plans and the short-term management of the economy. Careful and continuing attention will also be given to the size, composition and financing of public sector investment programmes.

14. It is one of the tasks of planning to extend the arena within which all nationals in a position to do so can, on their own, or with overseas partners, contribute to the aggregate of investment and production decisions that will accelerate growth and development. However, Governments are prepared to do more. In appropriate cases, particularly where new technology and new markets are involved and where local capacities have not sufficiently emerged, they will assume a catalytic role in starting new joint ventures with local and/or overseas partners, establishing from the outset arrangements for divestment to nationals. Governments realise that such a catalytic role requires insistence on the enforcement of sound commercial management practices, transparency in operations, and the establishment of independent machinery for monitoring and accountability to the public.

15. An unrelenting drive will be made to enforce operating efficiency in all public sector activity. Consequently, there will be an upgrading of the management and functioning of existing state enterprises and public utilities, including giving them the autonomy and responsibility to operate on strictly commercial lines within broad policy guidelines clearly laid down by the government. Also, there will be continual reviews of the possibilities of divestment of commercial enterprises to the local private sector and to joint venture with foreign partners where they are willing and capable of bringing to the enterprise new technologies and market penetration initiatives.

16. The Heads agree that the principal objective of macro-economic policies should be to achieve and sustain a dynamic and rational level, composition and growth of the domestic demand for goods and services and their local and regional availabilities. This involves, *inter alia*, fiscal discipline to keep public expenditure within the real resources available to the public sector, and the use of fiscal and monetary instruments to foster sustained growth and bring about an appropriate balance between consumption and investment. Altogether, the overall thrust of adjustment policies will be to increase the share of exports and investment in the aggregate demand for goods and services, and to expand the contribution of domestic production relative to imports in aggregate supply.

17. Policy will aim at a greater outward orientation of the manufacturing sector and mainly, but not exclusively, at greater national and regional self-sufficiency in food. Heads of Governments decide to give top priority to launching a major export drive, both with respect to traditional and non-traditional items. They agree that, among other things, this has to be a truly national effort whereby the entire population becomes sensitised to the urgency of achieving competitiveness in all economic activities, whether directly serving export markets or not. Government support and incentive programmes for the export sector will be significantly upgraded.

18. Heads of Government are mindful of the mutually reinforcing links between export development and increased domestic investment and savings. The growth of national saving must come from the more resolute efforts to plough back profits, to limit non-essential consumption and increased personal savings, and to achieve larger budget surpluses in Central Governments, Public Utilities and State Enterprises. These have to be underpinned by policies of income restraint throughout the economy.

19. All parts of the society have a contribution to make to incomes restraint. Companies should limit dividend distribution and freeze executive salaries as well as fringe benefits for specified periods. The Trade Unions and their members have a part to play in limiting and moderating claims for increases in remuneration packages. The process of structural adjustment may result in some amount of short-term dislocation. It is acknowledged, however, that failure to adjust structurally will also have the consequence of the even more serious problem of large-scale unemployment. Governments themselves will exercise strict economy in public expenditure on wages and salaries and on consumption. The Heads observe that incomes and prices restraint will give all of the economies a breathing space to translate productivity increases into more competitive cost structures which can be translated into creative investment, job opportunities, export and growth.

20. Although the role that exchange rate policies can play in achieving a competitive cost structure depends on the circumstances of each individual case, Heads of Government acknowledge that suitable exchange rate adjustments and/or productivity increases, arising from greater managerial efficiency, technological change and enhanced worker motivation are options that can improve the competitiveness of the Region's exports and attractiveness as an area for investment.

21. Heads of Government recognise that the successful execution of macro-economic policies contributes significantly to the improved performance of individual sectors. They are conscious of the need to alleviate a number of structural weaknesses in the more traditional sectors of export and domestic agriculture and mining, but recognise that this must be accompanied by a major thrust to expand and/or activate production in newer fields such as agro-industry, manufactured products with high world market growth potential and tourism. Accordingly, they give their broad endorsement to the Action Programmes as set out in the Report to improve sectoral performance in export and domestic agriculture, livestock, agro-industry, fishery, forestry, manufacturing industry, tourism, energy, bauxite/alumina, and science, technology and information.

22. They decide that these recommendations and the policies and programmes in the Report from which they derive will be elaborated, refined and followed up by the sectoral Ministries concerned and ask that Ministers report to them through the relevant Standing Committees on the progress being made with implementation.

Investment in People and Institutional Reform

23. In furtherance of the objectives to involve the population more closely in development and to widen the local entrepreneurial base, Governments agree to pay major attention to strengthening the educational system at all levels offering opportunities for the acquisition of skills that will directly contribute to the modernisation and development of the economy. Accordingly, deliberate efforts will be made to introduce technology as a major component in primary, secondary and tertiary education. All school children will be exposed to the principles underlying agricultural, technical and vocational skills. The systems analytical approach, including the use of computers, will be made an integral part of the formal educational system. Institutions of tertiary education will, as appropriate, introduce certificate, diploma and degree programmes in the information technologies as well as courses geared to the application of these technologies in agriculture, manufacturing, tourism and other services.

24. The tertiary educational systems will be strengthened and restructured to provide comprehensive training opportunities for para-professionals and middle-level supervisory occupations. Given the large expenditures and the specialist staff that such an upgrading entails, Governments will work closely together to develop the tertiary system as a regional network of institutions that will complement each other in providing the wide range of training required.

25. In this regard, Heads of Government agreed that the University of the West Indies, as the premier tertiary educational institution in the Region, was already making a major contribution towards satisfying the Member States' requirements for professional manpower. They noted that, with the completion of the Mt. Hope Medical Complex in 1985, the University would have the capability to satisfy the Region's need for professional manpower in the fields of medicine, dentistry and veterinary science. They recognise the high international standing of UWI degrees, and urged Member States to desist from any steps which could impair that standing. They agreed that in cases where surplus student places are available, they could be offered to students from outside the Region on internationally competitive terms.

26. They reiterated their commitment to restructure the UWI with effect from 1 October 1984.

27. Heads of Government are anxious that everyone should have easy access to better health care. To this end, community and preventative medicine involving primary care, public health, and prevention will be emphasised. They are particularly concerned with the poor state of the nutrition in some countries which is not only the result of low incomes but also of limited knowledge concerning the nutritional properties of individual foods. Accordingly, they agree to intensify programmes of nutritional education; to focus on nutrition in maternal and child care programmes; to have nutritional desiderata inform their domestic agricultural production mixes; and to pursue import replacement initiatives in their continuing efforts to ensure adequate nutritional levels for their populations.

28. Heads of Government realise that improvement in education and health will have beneficial effects on productivity and efficiency. However, specific steps will also be taken to achieve thoroughgoing institutional reform. This will include virtually all of the public institutions servicing the economy in areas such as development finance and credit; research and extension services; agricultural marketing systems and services; educational, science and technology; industrial, agricultural and tourist promotion; and export promotion. The entire public institutional

framework will be geared towards becoming more result oriented, setting the pace for the economy as a whole. The agencies concerned will be restructured to make them into centres of creativity, innovation, operational efficiency and dedication to the achievement of national goals.

29. The public services themselves urgently require major upgrading and reform. Governments will take immediate steps to strengthen the capacities of the public service for policy analysis and for financial management. Special attention will be paid to improving the machinery for planning, budgeting and project implementation.

External Financial Assistance Requirements

30. External financing is a *sine qua non* for successful adjustment and must go together with strict internal economic measures. Heads of Government are convinced that to implement a path of sustained development and increased local initiative in the beneficiary countries requires greater provision by foreign governments and international financial institutions of short and longer term finance on appropriate terms.

31. In relation to short-term finance, in some countries the over-hang of external debt service is constraining the flow of maintenance imports for new projects needed to accelerate growth. The debt overhang also erodes the foreign exchange required to build reserves to more credible levels. Certain CARICOM countries need substantial debt relief as a matter of the greatest urgency, involving extending amortisation, and softening of interest payments. In this connection, Heads of Government urge creditor countries and banks to respond to the need to re-finance debt in a timely and positive manner.

32. Longer-term finance is also required since the process of structural adjustment cannot succeed without concessional money to support the building-up of a virtually new economic and physical infrastructure which has already been noted. In addition, there is a need for programme finance to eliminate critical import bottlenecks and scarcities of raw materials, parts and spares. To some extent, finance for short-term stabilisation programmes can help with the latter requirement, but such finance cannot on its own bring about the scale of the adjustment effort required.

33. The immediate requirements of the Region for short and long term finance call for a greater sense of urgency. The international donor community is already making a useful contribution, including drawing attention to the policy options open to countries and the benefits to be sustained from mobilising private finance, especially foreign direct investment. The donor community must be encouraged to move a stage further by making multi-annual pledges of additional concessional finance for structural adjustment.

34. External financing should also foster the strengthening of the intra-regional framework for trade, economic and financial co-operation and for such co-operation between Member States of CARICOM and the remainder of the international economy.

35. Finally, the new arrangements for external financing should be directed towards achieving the establishing within the Region of organisational machinery to promote effective co-operation between donor community and Member States.

36. If all of the foregoing requirements for external financing are met, the countries of the Region will then have available to them the basic elements for implementing a “Marshall Plan” strategy of reconstruction and development.

THE CARIBBEAN COMMON MARKET

Objectives

37. Heads of Government stress the cardinal importance of revitalising intra-regional trade and payments and of achieving greater co-operation and co-ordination of efforts in the field of production.

38. In relation to the trade regime, they endorsed the decision of the Common Market Council to establish interim arrangements for mutual trade expansion among Member States. They affirm their resolve that these interim arrangements will give way in the shortest possible time to a return by every Member State to full adherence to formal obligations of Common Market membership.

39. Heads of Government agree that the Common External Tariff (CET) should replace, over a phased period, quantitative restrictions as the principal instrument of protection in the Caribbean Common Market with low rates of duty on imported raw materials and other immediate and capital goods. They recognise, however, that in certain instances and for specific time periods, certain sensitive agricultural and industrial products will need additional support on a common basis. They decide to ask Council to accelerate its work on the establishment of a single CET. They also stress the urgency of undertaking the necessary technical work to substitute common external tariff rates for national quantitative restrictions against Third Countries as permitted under the provisions of the Annex to the Treaty, and ask Council to take expeditious action on this matter. They agree to institute or strengthen, as necessary, statistical systems to provide timely import data to monitor the flow of imports against foreign availability. They acknowledge that the satisfactory operation of these systems will progressively reduce the need for the introduction or maintenance of import licensing systems, and ask Council to take expeditious action on this matter.

40. Heads of Government also agree to update and revise the Agreement on Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives to Industry in order to give more encouragement to extra-regional exports. They also agree to establish arrangements, including the CARICOM Enterprise Regime (CER), as appropriate for the “regulated movement of capital”, as well as entrepreneurial and managerial skills between the countries of the Common Market.

41. Heads agree on arrangements to facilitate the early reactivation of the CARICOM Multilateral Clearing Facility. They direct that Ministers of Finance consult urgently among themselves, through the Secretary-General, about possible joint initiatives to secure external financing for a recommencement of the Facility’s operations. They re-state their support for a Regional Payments

Support Fund and request the Secretary-General to invite the co-operation of the President of the CDB in actively pursuing this matter with the international donor community.

Agriculture

42. Heads of Government continue to assign top priority to co-operation in efforts to step-up food production for local and regional consumption. They support measures to liberalise intra-regional trade in agricultural products, while providing safeguards for regional production, *vis-à-vis* imports from Third Countries. They agree to the strengthening of operational agencies for developing and implementing food projects directed towards supplying the regional market. They welcome the initiatives that individual governments are taking to develop extra-regional exports of new agribusiness products, including exotic fruits and horticultural products, tropical foliage and fresh vegetables, and consider that there is also room in this field for co-operation among Member States.

Industry and Agro-Industry

43. Heads of Government give priority to concerted action to achieve a fuller utilisation of existing industrial and agro-industrial capacity in Member States and greater complementarity in the development of new capacity. In particular, they stress the urgency of promoting faster industrial and agro-industrial growth in the Less Developed Countries (LDCs). They agree that special steps will be taken by all CARICOM Member States to encourage the use in their development projects of goods and services of CARICOM origin. They decide that a joint approach will be made to the international donor community to untie bilateral aid for the purchase from CARICOM sources of raw materials and intermediate goods as well as staple items in mass consumption.

44. They further agree that Council should examine, taking into account relevant factors, including consumer interests, what steps can be taken to discourage the establishment of new industrial capacity for supplying the regional market exclusively with products for which there is already significant under-utilised capacity.

45. Heads of Government give primary importance to greater co-operation in the field of industrial promotion. They stress that in cases where individual countries are confronting serious shortage of expertise and very limited financial resources for these purposes, they stand to gain from co-operative rather than competitive efforts in this field. These were particularly relevant to promotional work on attracting industries for export to extra-regional markets. They decide to concentrate their initial promotional efforts on existing export opportunities in the USA, EEC and Canada, where their Member States have special access. They also recognise the potential for

breaking into new markets, such as those in mainland Latin America, in the context of the action contemplated in the Quito Declaration and Plan of Action.

46. Heads of Government agree that the new emphasis on promoting extra-regional industrial exports is fully consistent with the strategy of efficient production for the local and regional markets. The larger and technologically complex industries can be expected to sell much of their output on the world market, but there will still be considerable scope for a thriving small- and medium-scale industrial sector, producing for national and regional markets, either final consumer goods or inputs for the bigger extra-regionally oriented manufacturing industries. Moreover, such local and/or regionally oriented production can provide important 'learning effects' for eventual entry into the extra-regional markets.

Physical and Institutional Infrastructure

47. Heads of Government reviewed the situation with regard to regional transport. They welcome the improvements that have taken place, and were in prospect, with respect to both WISCO and LIAT. They returned to the question of a regional air transport system centred around BWIA and involving the airlines in the Region. They noted that CARICOM States had accepted the principle of 'community of interest' and that this was recognised by ICAO. They also noted that certain CARICOM States had designated BWIA as their National Carrier on certain routes and welcome the possibility of further initiatives to integrate airline services in the Region. They agree on the need for BWIA to plan on the basis of the traditional 'Fifth Freedom Rights' through the Eastern Caribbean to the UK and North America and to certain Caribbean destinations will continue. They decide that the Chief Executives of regional airlines should continue to work out further details of promoting co-operation in this field and on a timetable for its implementation.

48. Heads of Government also identified opportunities for maximising the utilisation of scarce expertise in the Region through the development of common technical services and pools of experts. This need was particularly acute among the Member Countries in the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). It was agreed that the MDCs would assist OECS, as far as possible, in meeting their needs for specialised services.

EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS

49. Heads of Government examined questions of external economic relations, and, without prejudice to earlier discussions of specific items, agree to take joint action on addressing, in the international arena, the issues of the critical external debt problems of some Caribbean countries; old and new forms of protectionism in the industrialised countries; reform of the international monetary system and the need for periodic and adequate increases in world liquidity.

50. Additionally, they plan to approach donor and the international institutions about the premature "graduation" of some CARICOM Countries from eligibility to receive both hard and soft loans from major international financial institutions. They would also urge these institutions to make greater provision for the external funding (in foreign exchange on semi-concessionary terms) of an intra-regional payments in integration groupings and to provide more financial support for regional integration projects.

51. Following upon their discussion of prospects for developing mutual trade with other developing countries, Heads of Government agree to pursue closer economic and cultural co-operation with the non-English-speaking Caribbean countries and to offer them Observer Status in certain Standing Committees concerned with functional co-operation. Heads of Government also agree that there should be joint technical groups between CARICOM as a group and the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Suriname to assist with the design and implementation of a programme of co-operation, particularly in the field of trade. They express their deep interest in following up possibilities for greater trade and economic co-operation within Latin America. As a first step, they ask the Secretary-General to hold exploratory discussions with the Andean Group about the possibility of negotiating a broadly based preferential trade and economic co-operation agreement between them. They give a similar directive to explore possibilities with Brazil, and to invite the Government of Mexico to broaden and deepen its existing co-operation agreement with CARICOM. They also agree that the feasibility of co-operation agreements with other countries and groupings should be studied by the Secretariat.

52. Heads of Government decided that the CARICOM Countries as a Group should participate in the preparatory work on the establishment of a Global System of Trade Preferences (GSTP) among Developing Countries and ask the Secretary-General to discuss with Member States having resident missions in Geneva what practical arrangements can be made for such participation.

53. The Governments of Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago announced their decision to sign and ratify the Agreement establishing the Common Fund for Commodities. The Governments of Barbados, Dominica, Guyana and Saint Lucia decide to sign the Agreement and by so doing declare their readiness to ratify the Agreement as soon as they are in a financial position to do so. Having already signed the Agreement, the Government of Grenada is willing to ratify the Agreement on the same basis, while the Governments of Antigua and Barbuda, Belize and St. Christopher and Nevis signify a similar preparedness to accede to the Agreement when it enters into force. Heads of Governments authorise the Secretary-General to, on request, help any Member State to explore the possibilities for financial assistance towards the payment, in whole or in part, of their capital subscriptions to the Common fund.

54. Heads of Government underscore their deep interest in the successful conclusion of negotiations for a Third Lomé Convention of the EEC/ACP, and express appreciation for the leadership given by the Rt. Honourable Hugh Shearer, Deputy Prime Minister of Jamaica in the negotiations and for the work being done by regional Ministers, officials and the Secretariat in the regard. They look forward to an early and satisfactory settlement of outstanding issues in the negotiations. They fully endorse the decision already taken by Council to nominate Mr. Edwin Carrington for the post of Secretary-General of the ACP Secretariat and ask the Chairman of the Meeting, the Prime Minister of The Bahamas, to convey their endorsement to the heads of Government of other ACP countries.

FORWARD IN UNITY

55. In concluding their discussion of the economic situation, Heads of Government throw out a challenge to all parts of their communities to respond positively to this historic opportunity for changing the course of events in order to move into a phase of sustained development, bringing benefits for all. They feel that this is a moment when, coming together in a spirit of co-operation and solidarity, the countries of CARICOM can harness their undoubted potential for development.

56. In discussing the role of CARICOM in structural adjustments, Heads of Government reaffirm the spirit of Caribbean co-operation and solidarity which has always constituted the foundations of the Community. They do not perceive a regional community as requiring rigid conformity to a single point of view. In common with other integration groupings, both among developed and developing countries, there are occasions when Member States will differ on individual issues. What was essential for regional unity was that areas of agreement should outweigh those of disagreement. Heads of Government re-state their dedication to strengthening the common ground among their countries; to continue helping one another in a spirit of accommodation and togetherness; and to maintaining regular contact among themselves, keeping up the frank, cordial and constructive exchange of views that have traditionally characterised intra-regional relations.

GRAND ANSE DECLARATION
AND
WORK PROGRAMME FOR
THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE INTEGRATION MOVEMENT

At this our Tenth Meeting here in Grenada, we, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community inspired by the spirit of co-operation and solidarity among us are moved by the need to work expeditiously together to deepen the integration process and strengthen the Caribbean Community in all of its dimensions to respond to the challenges and opportunities presented by the changes in the global economy. Accordingly, we set out a work programme and specific initiatives to be implemented over the next four years.

The Common Market

We are determined to work towards the establishment, in the shortest possible time, of a single market and economy for the Caribbean Community. To that end, we shall ensure that the following steps are taken not later than 4 July 1993, taking into account the need for the continuance of Special Measures for the LDCs:

1. The three Common Market Instruments required by the Treaty of Chaguaramas — the Common External Tariff, the Rules of Origin, and a Harmonised Scheme of Fiscal Incentives — fully revised, agreed and effective by January 1991;
2. customs co-operation and our Customs Administrations strengthened to prepare ourselves for movement towards a Customs Union;
3. the signature by all of us to the Agreement establishing the CARICOM Industrial Programming Scheme (CIPS) by 30 September 1989;
4. the enactment, by January 1990 of the legislation required to give effect to CIPS and the CARICOM Enterprise Regime (CER);
5. a scheme for the movement of capital introduced by 1993 starting with the cross-listing and trading of securities on existing stock exchange;
6. technical work to commence immediately on the establishment of a regional Equity/Venture Capital Fund;
7. the CARICOM Multilateral Clearing Facility strengthened and re-established for current and capital transactions by December 1990;

8. further arrangements for intensifying consultation and co-operation on monetary, financial and exchange rate policies by July 1990;
9. the removal of all remaining barriers to trade by July 1991;
10. immediate activation of Article 39 of the Annex to the Treaty of Chaguaramas in order to promote consultation, co-operation and co-ordination of policies at the macro-economic, sectoral and project levels;
11. arrangements by January 1991 for the free movement of skilled and professional personnel as well as for contract workers on a seasonal or project basis;
12. immediate and continuing action to develop, by 4 July 1992, a regional system of air and sea transportation including the pooling of resources by existing air and sea carriers conscious that such a system is indispensable to the development of a Single Market and Community;
13. greater collective effort for joint representation in international economic negotiations and the sharing of facilities and offices to this end, with immediate effect.

Development Issues

In examining the longer term prospects for development, we recognize the primary importance of Human Resource Development and the expansion of scientific and technological capability to the modernisation of the regional economy.

Accordingly, we adopted the resolution in Annex I on Human Resource Development and the University of the West Indies (UWI) which, among other things, recognises the pivotal role of the UWI and enshrines our commitment that it shall continue indefinitely as a regional institution.

Human Resource Development is of special value in the exploitation of new opportunities arising in the services sector through the development of information technology. We consider these possibilities to hold significant potential for economic growth and development.

Accordingly, we shall initiate immediately, consultations with the private sector, trade unions and education institutions to determine the specific strategies for taking full advantage of these opportunities.

We are conscious that people, rather than institutions, are the creators and producers of development. We acknowledge the special roles of the private sector, the trade union movement, the regional universities, the religious organisations, women and youth organisations, the various professions, other non-governmental organisations and people of all walks and conditions of life in moving CARICOM forward.

In this connection, we agree to take the following steps:

- (i) The establishment of an Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians and of a Ministerial group to work out the modalities.
- (ii) The establishment of an Independent West Indian Commission for Advancing the Goals of the Treaty of Chaguaramas as agreed in the Resolution at Annex II.
- (iii) The convening of a Caribbean Economic Conference as agreed in the Resolution at Annex III.
- (iv) The elimination, by December 1990, of the requirement for passports for CARICOM nationals travelling to other CARICOM countries.
- (v) The elimination of the requirement for work permits for CARICOM nationals beginning with the visual and performing arts, sports and the media travelling to CARICOM countries for specific regional events.
- (vi) The organising of a series of events around 1992 to highlight our achievements in the areas of sports, the performing arts, literature and other areas of cultural endeavour, business and commerce and education. The series will commence with the staging of CARIFESTA in 1991 and include a major Trade Fair early in 1992 in Trinidad and Tobago.

We are acutely aware of the fragility of the environment on which our economies rest and of the myriad threats to that environment from internal and external actions and activities. To protect our environment, we support all international initiatives to safeguard the global environment and strongly endorse the Port-of-Spain Accord on the Management and Conservation of the Caribbean Environment by our own Ministers responsible for conservation of the Environment.

Machinery for Intergovernmental Consultations

In order to ensure the full and timely implementation of the programme set out above, we shall intensify and make more frequent the contact and consultations among ourselves. We shall meet as often as necessary to advance the decision making and the implementation of this programme.

Issued at the Tenth Meeting of the
Conference of Heads of Government of the
Caribbean Community, Grand Anse, Grenada.
July 1989.

Annex I

GRAND ANSE RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WEST INDIES

Heads of Government:

Deeply conscious of the critical importance of upgrading human resources at all levels and of enhancing the scientific and technological capability of the Region if it is to overcome the present economic challenges and avail itself of the opportunities unfolding in the Global Economy in the Twenty-first Century;

Aware that tertiary education institutions have a pivotal role to play in enlarging and improving education, training and retraining opportunities in all of the countries of the Region, and in this context, acknowledging that the University of the West Indies must give leadership in these efforts;

Also aware of the rapid growth in knowledge-based industries and the need for a close working relationship between the tertiary training institutions and the goods and service sectors;

Recognising the physical and technical capacities in the regional universities for technology planning as well as for research and development and commercialisation of new technologies, in particular biotechnology, computer software and information systems and materials sciences;

Also conscious of the urgent need to upgrade management, personnel and systems through comprehensive education and training programmes and of the work being developed in the regional universities;

Agreed that Government should support the regional Universities in mobilising resources — both from private sources and donor institutions and agencies — for expanding access to University education and for developing programmes and activities in science, technology and related fields;

Called upon Governments to encourage donor countries, to the maximum extent possible, to make their scholarship and other training awards tenable at the University of the West Indies which, among other things, could contribute to reducing the costs of the University's operations that have to be financed by contributing Governments;

Also called upon donors wherever appropriate to make their awards tenable at the University of Guyana;

Decided that, in view of the major role which the University of the West Indies is being called upon to play, it should remain a regional institution indefinitely.

Annex II

**GRAND ANSE RESOLUTION ON PREPARING
THE PEOPLES OF THE WEST INDIES
FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY**

CARIFESTA (1991) AND QUINCENTENNIAL (1992)

Heads of Government:

Fully supported the idea of maximizing the opportunities of CARIFESTA (1991) and the Quincentennial celebrations (1992) for the expression of the creative genius of the Caribbean people, for promotion of awareness of common history, identity and common destiny, and for projecting achievements in the Region in the fields of literature, the creative arts, sports, culture, politics, economic and human development;

Accepted the proposal for the establishment of a Commission of eminent West Indians to promote the purposes outlined in the paper with special emphasis on the process of public consultation and involvement of the peoples of CARICOM through leaders, teachers, writers, intellectuals, creative artistes, businessmen, sportsmen, trade unionists, churches and other community organisations.

Further agreed as follows:

1. that no later than 1 October 1989, the Commission be established as an Independent West Indian Commission for Advancing the Goals of the Treaty of Chaguaramas and report to Heads of Government prior to their meeting in 1992;
2. that the Chairman of the Commission be Sir Shridath Ramphal;
3. that the Secretary-General of CARICOM and the Director-General of OECS be ex-officio members of the Commission;
4. that the Chairman of the Commission should consult with Heads of Government of Member States with a view to appointing the other members of the Commission as soon as possible; and
5. that the Commission should establish a budget for its work and be empowered to seek contributions to its budget from Member States and external sources.

Annex III

GRAND ANSE RESOLUTION ON PREPARING THE PEOPLES OF THE WEST INDIES FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

PROPOSAL FOR A CARIBBEAN ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Heads of Government:

Welcomed the proposals for a Caribbean Economic Conference and the ideas and proposals outlined in papers "Preparing Caribbean Economies for the Twenty-first Century – A Proposal for a Caribbean Economic Conference" and "The West Indies: Beyond 1992" presented by the Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago;

Endorsed the holding of a Conference in 1990 along the lines proposed;

Agreed to set in motion in their respective countries preparations for the Conference; and

Directed the Secretary-General of CARICOM to follow up this matter with regional Governments and other interested parties.

Annex IV

STATEMENT ON CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE (CBI)

Heads of Government welcomed the information that on 1 June 1989 the Ways and Means Committee of the United States House of Representatives "marked up" the Caribbean Basin Economic Recovery Act or the CBI II. They were particularly encouraged, that in its present form, the Bill addresses a number of concerns which they have, on several occasions, brought to the attention of the United States Administration and Congress.

They were greatly encouraged by the incorporation of provisions for the indefinite extension of the CBI; the improvement in the treatment for garment and textiles and of non-leather products; the guaranteed minimum quota for sugar and the non-aggregation of Caribbean products in the investigation of injury to US industry.

They were particularly heartened that Congress had recognised the need for special provisions for the OECS Members and Belize, for Tourism and for Education and Training.

In welcoming the progress of the Bill, Heads of Government recognised that there were still additional steps to be taken in the legislative process. They were, however, satisfied that the broad-based bi-partisan support which has emerged for the Bill, at all stages, will ensure final approval in its present form.

Heads of Government took the opportunity to place on record their appreciation of the efforts of the President and the Administration and of Congressman Sam Gibbons, Senator Bob Graham, and the other "Friends of the Caribbean" in mobilising support for the Bill.

They look forward to its early passage into legislation in its present form.

Grand Anse
GRENADA

July 1989

THE KINGSTON DECLARATION

We the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, assemble at Kingston, Jamaica -

DECLARE as follows:

Democracy and Popular Participation

We resolve, and enjoin our citizens to pursue all of our just economic, social and political objectives within the framework of our deeply cherished democratic traditions,

We are determined to strengthen the processes by providing every opportunity for the full involvement of all our citizens in the governance of their affairs, in particular the deepening of our integration effort toward the achievement of a truly authentic Caribbean personality.

We reiterate our commitment to establishing an Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians with representatives from both government and opposition members of our Parliaments. This Assembly will be deliberative and consultative and will, we confidently expect, be a powerful influence on the integration movement and on furthering democratic processes in the Region.

Human Resource Development

We are more than ever convinced that the development of the human resources of the Region, including indigenous entrepreneurship, and the expansion of the knowledge base, must constitute central elements in regional and national development strategies. We re-affirm our intentions to take speedy action to implement the Resolution on Human Resource Development adopted at our Tenth Meeting in Grenada in July 1989.

We are gratified by the progress being made by the University of the West Indies in finalizing its Development Plan for the period 1990-2000. We encourage the University to pursue its effort to mobilise resources for the implementation of the Plan.

We look forward to the regional universities working together to achieve the common aim of expanding access to university education, and to upgrade their teaching, research, and outreach programmes.

All institutions of education and training have to gear themselves for an accelerated effort to equip the peoples of the Region with the knowledge and skills necessary to function in a highly competitive and technology-driven world.

Our Governments will make their best efforts to provide more resources for education and training, but ultimately this is a task for our communities as a whole. We invite the private sector and the communities at large to join in the task of mobilising resources for these purposes.

The strengthening of the knowledge base requires a major effort in the field of science and technology aimed at finding new and improved methods for utilising the natural resource of the Region, and at adapting and utilising state-of-the-art technologies in the production of goods and services. We are determined to push research, in particular research and development, in a number of new and emerging fields, such as biotechnology, informatics, energy, and material sciences. To that end existing mechanisms will be strengthened and new ones devised, to promote the fullest possible collaboration among the scientists of the Region.

Sustainable Development

Recognising that our economic development should be sensitive to environmental concerns, we reaffirm our strong commitment to achieving patterns of sustainable development that will permit improvements in standards of living with protection of the ecology. We will cooperate with the international community in the pursuit of these environmental concerns. We pledge our support, in particular, for the Guyana Forestry Project and urge the international community to support its implementation.

Common Market

The process for establishing a Single Market by 1993 — to which we committed ourselves in our Grand Anse Declaration — is well on the way. We will implement the revised Common External Tariff (CET), the Rules of Origin and the Revised Scheme for the Harmonisation of Fiscal Incentives by January 1, 1991 and will commence cross-listing and trading of securities on the existing stock exchanges on January 1, 1991. We have all signed the CARICOM Industrial Programming Scheme (CIPS) and have all reaffirmed our resolve to remove all remaining barriers to intra-regional trade by July 1991.

We are now positioned to go further. Accordingly, we agree to:

- (i) mandate the governors of our Central Banks to commence study as soon as possible for consideration by the Heads of Government to transform our Common Market into a monetary union;
- (ii) institutionalise a twice-yearly meeting of our Ministers of Finance and Senior Finance Officials;

- (iii) request the Governors of our Central Banks to meet on a more frequent and systematic basis and mandate them to work towards the coordination of the establishment of a monetary union;
- (iv) mandate the Common Market Council, assisted by the Secretary-General to appoint a Commissioner to facilitate and expedite the timely implementation of all the actions in our Grand Anse Declaration and in this Declaration;
- (v) respond positively, as a group, to any initiative to increase economic co-operation in the wider region and hemisphere;
- (vi) co-operate fully in the identification, management and effective exploitation of the resources in our exclusive economic zones. We instruct our relevant Ministers to develop the necessary informational, institutional and human resource bases to this end.

Disaster Prevention and Preparedness

We declare our determination to establish before the next hurricane season through an Inter-Governmental Agreement, a Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency for immediate and co-ordinated emergency relief.

We request continued support of the international system for the Pan Caribbean Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Project (PCDPPP) while we put the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency in place.

Peace, Stability and Security

We are deeply conscious that the political freedom, economic well-being and social progress, desired by our peoples can best be achieved in an environment of peace, stability and security. We therefore commit ourselves to the establishment of a regional security mechanism, having amongst its function:

- assisting Member States in clearly defined situations which threaten their sovereignty;
- forming part of a regime of enforcement of all facets of maritime jurisdiction;
- enhancing our enforcement capability in the war against international narco-traffickers.

Conclusion

We recognise the enormity of these commitments but are confident that our resolve and the commitment of our people are equal to the task.

Kingston, Jamaica
2 August 1990

CREATIVE AND PRODUCTIVE CITIZENS FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

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INTRODUCTION

The Seventeenth Meeting of Conference of Heads of Government held in Barbados 1996 had,

Agreed that on the occasion of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government, a Special Session should be dedicated to Education and Human Resource Development;

Requested the CARICOM Secretariat to begin preparatory consultations with Ministries of Education, UWI and other relevant organisations and convene a Special Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education (SCME) on Education and Human Resource Development, prior to the Eighteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government.

In preparation for this Special Session of the Conference, Member States were invited to conduct national consultations on the matter and to submit their positions for consideration at the regional level.

In addition to the consultations held within the education sector, the Ministers responsible for Health and for Children also met to consider the issue of Human Resource Development.

Additionally the Ministers responsible for Women's Affairs had requested that the Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice should also be submitted for the consideration of the Conference.

The preparatory work for this Special Session, the Secretariat and UWI benefited from the support of regional and international agencies such as the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), the Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce (CAIC), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO), the United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the Commonwealth of Learning (COL).

Submitted for the consideration of Heads of Government is a composite document which incorporates the submission and recommendations emanating from the various consultations and contained in the following documents:

- i) Creative and Productive Citizens for the Twenty-First Century - a document approved by the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education (SCME) at a Special Meeting held in Barbados in May 1997;
- ii) a Report on Human Resource Development and Science and Technology - prepared by the Prime Minister of Grenada, Dr. the Hon. Keith Mitchell;
- iii) a Report from a Special Meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health - held in Barbados in April 1997;
- iv) a submission from the Caribbean Tourism Organisation;
- v) a report from a Regional Meeting of Ministers with responsibility for Children held in Belize in 1996 and a subsequent Meeting held in Jamaica in March 1997;
- vi) a policy document: Towards Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice approved in The Bahamas in 1995 by Ministers with responsibility for Women's Affairs and the CARICOM Post Beijing Regional Plan of Action to the Year 2000 subsequently approved by the Ministers in Trinidad and Tobago in 1996.

The Conference will be invited to:

note the external and internal factors as well as the prevailing trends within the Community which have influenced the dialogue on Human Resource Development;

consider the proposed Vision of the Caribbean and the definition of the Caribbean Person;

also note the development priorities within the context of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy;

also consider and endorse the following strategic interventions -

- i) Strategies for Survival, Development and Prosperity and Critical Elements for Effecting Change proposed by the SCME;
- ii) The Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice approved by the Ministers with responsibility for Women;
- iii) The Belize Commitment to Action for the Rights of the Child proposed by the Ministers responsible for Children;
- iv) The Health Promotion Charter and the Proposals for the Management of Human Resources proposed by the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health (CMH);
- v) The recommendation on Science and Technology; approve the proposed programme of work.

EXTERNAL AND INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNTRY

Informed by:

Studies commissioned by CARICOM Secretariat
Analysis of Science and Technology Proposals
Promoting Productive Employment for Poverty Eradication:
Issues, Policies and Programmes in the Caribbean
- Grace Strachan, ILO, 1996

INTRODUCTION

The Caribbean Region faces a number of complex challenges to which an urgent response is necessary. In addition to building a capacity to respond to fundamental global changes which have overtaken the Community in spite of the gains in nation building reforms, the Community needs to move swiftly to arrest the deterioration in the social conditions of a significant section of our population. Our capacity to deal with this complex set of challenges will depend on the quality of our people and as a consequence there is need for a shift from an emphasis on the development of physical and financial capital only to the development of human capital. It is in this context that the proposals for human resource development are here set out for consideration.

EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

The fundamental global changes present special challenges for the Small States of the Caribbean Community. The growth of large trading blocs in the world threatens to marginalise small island nations while changes in the world economic situation, with a shift to greater liberalisation of trade, have resulted in an increased competitiveness in the market place, a situation to which small economies will have to make strenuous efforts to adjust. Rapid advances in technology and communications and the application of science and technology to research efforts and the

productive processes in the developed countries has served to widen the gap between the rich and poorer nations.

INTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

Labour Market Trends

Despite some economic and social gains that have been achieved over the years, the Caribbean Region continues to be plagued with unacceptably high levels of unemployment and poverty which accentuate the problems initiated by rapid changes at the global level. Unemployment levels of over 15 per cent have been reported for Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago with over 10 per cent in Belize. The burden of the unemployment has fallen particularly on women, youth, the disabled and on some rural and ethnic groups (Strachan, ILO, 1996). While high levels of unemployment are reported, there exists critical shortages of skilled labour in key economic sectors. Lower and middle managers with responsibility for productivity enhancement and technical skills linked to priority areas of industrial development (UNIDO Report prepared for CARICOM, 199.), qualified tourism experts fundamental to the creation and delivery of a competitive quality product as well as other skills for the tourism related services (CTO, 1997) are among the shortages of skills reported.

Social Problems

Several social problems have been observed which have implications for human resource development strategy -

- (i) The weakening of the extended family and community relations with its negative social and economic effects on the household, especially the single parent female headed household;
- (ii) An increase in substance abuse and high incidences of HIV/AIDS among our young people
- (iii) An increase in crime associated with drug trafficking; and also an increase in domestic violence;
- (iv) An increase in levels of poverty particularly in the rural areas.

While presenting Caribbean countries with significant opportunities for economic advancement, the rapid developments in communications have at the same time, exposed the region to cultural penetration. This exposure has contributed to the disruption of those traditional patterns of life which need to be preserved, the erosion of family values, and the promotion of social disintegration and increasing levels of crime and violence.

Performance of the Education System

A World Bank Report indicates that in 1990 the overall average of the 20 -24 age group enrolled in tertiary (non degree) was only 6.1 per cent and 1.7 per cent in higher (university) institutions in the Region. (Note this figure dose not include overseas training.) The enrollment levels for tertiary (non degree) ranged from a high of 14.1 per cent in Barbados to 4.9 per cent in Guyana and Jamaica and 2.4 per cent in St Vincent and the Grenadines. These levels are low in comparison with the enrollment levels of 16 to 66 per cent in Industrial Countries and 36 - 13 per cent in Latin America.

An analysis of the performance of students at the primary and secondary levels indicates some disturbing trends. There is evidence of repetition, drop-outs, absenteeism and truancy which are indicative of the quality of services offered. The performance of students at the primary level is regarded as being below acceptable standards necessary to build an adequate foundation for the required competencies, skills and understandings for science technology and foreign languages; and the transition from primary to secondary is a difficult experience for some pupils. At the secondary level, less than 12 per cent of the candidates pass 5 or more subjects in the CXC while 36 per cent pass no subjects at all. This level of passes is considered to be inadequate to meet the needs of the job market or entry to university education (Craig 1997).

Prevailing Trends

A number of prevailing trends have been observed within the Community which have implications for human resource development planning (Special Meeting of SCME, May 1997). These are:

- (i) persistent difficulties in accelerating and stabilising the rate of growth of employment within the formal sector of the economy;
- (ii) a general low level of entrepreneurship;
- (iii) declining opportunities in the low- skilled, low -waged sector;
- (iv) increase in the fall out especially among the socially and economically disadvantaged;
- (v) increase in number of unemployed youth; and
- (vi) increase in the numbers of displaced workers;
- (vii) increasing deterioration in the quality of inter-personal relationships resulting from the lack of caring for one another in the schools, in the community, in homes and the workplace.
- (viii) increased opportunities for self-employment within both formal and informal sectors of the economy;
- (ix) increasing opportunities in the higher skill jobs requiring higher technology;
- (x) increase in leisure time;
- (xi) increasing participation of females in the workplace.

These trends need to be addressed so that the Community would either benefit from those which are positive or reverse as quickly as possible those that are detrimental.

IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COMMUNITY

The fundamental changes at the global level have created conditions in which economic well-being has become increasingly dependent on the availability of a highly educated and high skilled labour force capable of being retrained to meet changing demands.

An analysis of Science and Technology needs within the context of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy pointed to the need to master the use of the information technology and to ensure that adequate opportunities are provided for skills development at all levels. Self employment through the development of viable micro-enterprises should be promoted as a means of solving the high levels of unemployment among youth and women.

The analysis also emphasised the importance of increased productivity as a means of achieving the anticipated improvements in the social and economic welfare of Caribbean people. Recommended interventions at the Marco level include:

- (i) the commitment to educational reform and manpower planning in both the public and private sectors;
- (ii) the adoption of a more flexible and less restrictive industrial policies and strategies;
- (iii) the creation of a more co-operative industrial climate;
- (iv) while the recommended interventions at the micro level include:
- (v) appropriate training;
- (vi) the upgrading of human resources;
- (vii) improved research and development;
- (viii) the introduction of appropriate technology;
- (ix) more meaningful worker participation in the productive process.

The Special Session of SCME (May 1997) noted that ultimately, the development of human resources is both cause and effect of economic development and so strategies should ensure opportunities and incentives for all citizens including those with special needs to improve their standard of living and quality of life.

VISION OF THE CARIBBEAN IN THE FUTURE AND THE IDEAL CARIBBEAN PERSON

Informed by:

The Regional Cultural Policy
The West Indian Commission Report
The Caribbean Charter for Health Promotion
The Special Meeting of SCME, May 1997

CARIBBEAN FUTURE

The Caribbean should be seen as that part of the world where the population enjoys a good quality of life with the basic needs of food, clothing, shelter, health care and employment being all virtually satisfied. The environment should be one which provides clean air and water, unpolluted seas and healthy communities — an environment that has not been destroyed by the development process.

THE IDEAL CARIBBEAN PERSON

The Ideal Caribbean Person should be someone who among other things:

- is imbued with a respect for human life since it is the foundation on which all the other desired values must rest;
- is emotionally secure with a high level of self confidence and self esteem;
- sees ethnic, religious and other diversity as a source of potential strength and richness;
- is aware of the importance of living in harmony with the environment;
- has a strong appreciation of family and kinship values, community cohesion, and moral issues including responsibility for and accountability to self and community;
- has an informed respect for the cultural heritage;
- demonstrates multiple literacies independent and critical thinking, questions the beliefs and practices of past and present and brings this to bear on the innovative application of science and technology to problems solving;
- demonstrates a positive work ethic;
- values and displays the creative imagination in its various manifestations and nurture its development in the economic and entrepreneurial spheres in all other areas of life;

- has developed the capacity to create and take advantage of opportunities to control, improve, maintain and promote physical, mental, social and spiritual well being and to contribute to the health and welfare of the community and country;
- nourishes in him/herself and in others, the fullest development of each person's potential without gender stereotyping and embraces differences and similarities between females and males as a source of mutual strength.

DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE CARICOM SINGLE MARKET AND ECONOMY

Informed By:

Report on Human Resource Development and Science and Technology within the Context of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, Prepared by Dr the Hon Keith C Mitchell, Prime Minister, Grenada, June 1997. Report from the Special Meeting of the Conference of Ministers with responsibility for Health, May 1997.

Report from the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), May 1997.

While the fundamental global changes serve to define in broad terms the nature of the reform in the education system, the business and industry development priorities as well as the specific needs of the services as determined by national policies will provide directions for the planning, development and delivery of training programmes. Some sectors have already undertaken preliminary steps towards the identification of training needs.

The report on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy has identified several development priorities which can serve to inform human resource development programmes. These include:

- (i) the development of non-traditional agriculture to meet the demands of a growing tourism sector and also to enhance food security at home;
- (ii) the undertaking of primary, secondary or even tertiary processing of commodities previously exported in their raw state (producing greater value added products);
- (iii) the diversification into export services industries (e.g. tourism, information processing and off-shore financial services) with significant growth potential;
- (iv) the placing of greater emphasis on science and the use of appropriate technology in both the production and distribution of goods and services;
- (v) the restructuring of the incentive regime so as to give greater incentives to businesses that are engaged in the implementation of appropriate technology training initiatives and export oriented activities;
- (vi) the implementation of legislation to safeguard intellectual property rights;

- (vii) the establishment of Marketing Intelligence Networks that would facilitate easy access to marketing information as well as the identification and exploitation of niche markets for the region's exotic products and organically grown foods.

The Report on Science and Technology within the context of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy identified a number of opportunities for the development of industry and services including agro-forestry, extractive industries, craft pharmaceutical and cosmetics, tourism and cultural goods. The national and regional capacity to exploit the opportunities available will depend in a large measure on the Science and Technology capability and the quality of human resources. These priorities will serve to inform the training needs and the direction of research.

The consultations of the Health Sector reiterated that the explicitly articulated guidelines of health policy

– Primary Health Care and Health Promotion – should be the fundamental basis for both health services and human resource development. These guidelines should also dictate the strategic orientation of health science education and training. It has been recommended that a thorough exposure to Public Health during the training of environmental officers at both the basic and generic levels should be among the health training priorities.

The 1995 Report of a Commission on the Tourism Sector, which was established by the UWI, reported on the areas of the Tourism Sector which required attention. These included senior management, executive chiefs, engineers, linguists, cultural ambassadors and research and development.

Relevance and quality of training have been emphasised during all consultations. It is anticipated that the establishment of mechanisms for building partnerships between the training institutions and business, industry and services will ensure that these requirements can be met.

STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS

Informed by:

Strategies for Survival and Critical Elements for Effecting Change: Special Meeting of Standing Committee of Ministers with responsibility for Education, Barbados, May 1997

- Strategies For Survival, Development And Prosperity

The Strategies for Development and Prosperity and the Critical Elements for Change were approved at the Special Meeting of Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education held in Barbados in May 1997.

Education is the major mechanism to bring about the necessary transformation in Caribbean Society. However, a mere increase in access to education and training, however, will not guarantee higher productivity, competitiveness and good citizenship. Human resource development

strategies must ensure that education and training are not done in the mechanistic manner which was characteristic of past periods. These strategies need to take into account:

- (i) the emerging profile of the workforce needed for competitiveness;
- (ii) the re-organisation of production processes; and
- (iii) the development of abilities, attitudes, skills and technological knowledge necessary for jobs, entrepreneurial development and human well being.

This approach needs to be promoted both within and without the formal system.

Education in the Caribbean must have as its ultimate goal the creation of a democratic Caribbean society which allows for the evolution of the new Caribbean person who is at the centre of his/her development.

- Directions for Education and Training

The trends observed within the Community suggest certain directions for education and training which will serve to guide the implementation of the Action Plan:

- (i) A rethinking of the way education is conceptualized, developed and implemented focussing on value added at each level resulting in outcomes that are qualitatively different;
- (ii) A shift from a focus on entry requirements which restrict access, to an emphasis on exit standards, thereby increasing access and promoting equity;
- (iii) The introduction of processes which support the development of graduates who are adaptable, flexible, creative, competent and who have the capacity and willingness to keep on learning;
- (iv) The creation of a learning environment in which the teacher serves as facilitator with the student taking increasing responsibility for his/her learning and being deliberately encouraged to be futuristic in their thinking;
- (v) The introduction of a system which is gender sensitive in its focus and practice to ensure the full participation and development of both sexes;
- (vi) The introduction of a system, sensitive to the special needs of learners, which aims to remove physical, mental and financial barriers and which provides an enabling environment and necessary support to such persons to fully participate and succeed in the system.

The educational experiences being so wide and varied demand partnerships among the various stakeholders. Parents, business, trade unions, community, religious bodies, non-governmental agencies and government will all have to be involved in:

- (i) the provision of educational opportunities for both the formal and non-formal sectors, including opportunities for retraining;
- (ii) the governance and management of systems and institutions;
- (iii) the development of collaboration between institutions in areas such as research, planning and curriculum development; and
- (iv) the financing of education.

To achieve these most important partnerships it is necessary that the following be available:

- (i) definitions for early childhood education, primary education, secondary education, post-secondary education and tertiary education which are in keeping with international definitions;
- (ii) common education indicators which will be used to monitor progress in the system; and
- (iii) a standardised format of what statistics are collected and how they are collated and analysed.

It is suggested that CARICOM Secretariat take the lead in this and provide relevant drafts within four months of the conclusion of the Special Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education held in Barbados in May 1997.

- Strategic Imperatives

Consistent with the challenges and the vision outlined in the preceding sections, a number of strategic imperatives suggest themselves. The building of creative and productive capacity hinges on four parallel and complementary educational processes. These are outlined below:

1. Higher and Tertiary Education

First and foremost is the enrollment of at least 15 per cent of the post secondary age cohort in tertiary-level education by the Year 2005. A 15 per cent enrollment in tertiary level education is about double what obtains at present, and represents a formidable challenge. But it is no more than what other middle income countries have already achieved, and if Caribbean countries continue to lag behind the price in terms of inability to complete could be catastrophic.

The imperative is not only to enroll, but also to ensure an output that matches enrollment. Measures of accountability will need to be instituted to realise this. Tertiary-level institutions will have to be strengthened to assume an expanded role and to realise an improved quality of output closely aligned to current and anticipated needs and the realities of the Society. New methods of delivery, such as distance education, and a policy which places more emphasis on exit standards rather than

on initial entry qualifications will have to be adopted. Quality assurance mechanisms alluded to earlier will be critical to this development.

Enrollment target addresses issues of access and numbers. However, there are other strategic objectives to be pursued in a plan for human resources for the Twenty-First Century in the Caribbean context. Several of these are stated in UWI strategic plan for 1997-2002. These are summarised as follows:

- the enhancement of the developmental contribution of young people by training particularly in areas of science, technology and international business;
- upgrading and enlarging the capability of the Region's TLIs and fostering complementarity between their programmes;
- enhancing the links between educational and training institutions and government and business enterprises to ensure the relevance and usefulness of education and training programmes;
- increased support for research which directly or indirectly supports Caribbean development and international competitiveness including research on the education sector itself;
- ensure availability of a cadre of citizens adequately equipped with knowledge of Caribbean and the world, with bilingual skills and an appreciation of the contribution of science and technology to contemporary world and sustainable development.

The Regional Strategy for Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET) identified the number of actions aimed at strengthening the role of TVET as a strategy for human resource development. Among the actions identified are:

- (i) expansion of education training opportunities;
- (ii) optimisation of use of available resources;
- (iii) increase in impact of resources allocated for education and training; and
- (iv) consolidation and continued development of TVET.

The rapid changes in technology make it imperative that Governments put the appropriate mechanisms in place to ensure financial support for TVET institutions.

2. Secondary, Primary and Pre-Primary Education

These new developments in higher and tertiary education will create new imperatives for the entire education system, but particularly for the formal system.

Universal secondary education will have to be a goal to be achieved within the same time-frame. Universal secondary education is a goal in its own right, since the evidence clearly indicates that the countries which have exhibited the fastest and highest levels of economic growth are those which have achieved universal or near universal secondary education. The realisation of the goal of universal secondary education will require, *inter alia*, new organisational and management structures, the introduction of policies of open schooling, new teaching and learning methods and forms of assessment, and a greater use of technology in education. These developments in secondary education will also have their implications for the primary and pre-primary levels of education, particularly in terms of urgent necessary improvement in efficiency, effectiveness and quality.

While the primary level has been the focus of reform initiatives in many Member States, pre-primary development has only now come into equivalent focus. The recently formulated Regional Action Plan for Early Childhood Education Development arising from the Second Caribbean Conference on Early Childhood Education and Development in April 1997 defines new directions for this level. Research evidence has indicated the crucial importance of Early Childhood Education and Development (ECED) to the success of any initiative in human resource development. It is therefore imperative that ECED be urgently addressed.

3. Opportunities for Out-of-School Youth

The introduction of a policy of open schooling will not only contribute to the attainment of universal secondary education within the formal organisational structure, but will also provide the means for addressing the problems of youths who, for one reason or another, are not captured within the formal framework, but continue to represent a grave social and economic problem throughout the Region.

At the same time, adults who did benefit or only partially benefited from programmes of formal education, but who constitute a large proportion of the work force, will be able through this means to advance their education and upgrade their productive skills. Governments and the private sector will need to co-operate closely in finding ways of building a creative and productive workforce, and education at the work place will have to become an acceptable norm.

There is also need to increase the articulation between secondary school and post-secondary training facilities and the mobilisation of out-of-school youth through:

- (a) the collection of data on the occupational and training aspirations of school leavers;
- (b) the use of these data in the formulation of training programmes as well as in the motivation of individual youth to pursue their aspirations through the intervention of youth officers, community workers and training officers.

4. Non-formal: Educational Process Parallel and Complementary to Standard Education

In addition to the standard educational process which leads to certification, there is also the need for educational processes that parallel and complement it. These parallel and complementary processes lead to the building of a strong ethical and value systems as well as the attainment of an appropriate world view and are as important for Caribbean people as is the need to achieve a competitive edge economically.

These parallel, complementary educational processes serve the goal of culturally enhancing a population that may not be immediately interested in enrollment or certification as well as those going through the standard education process. The programmes are people oriented and include concerns for environment, health education, awareness of science and technology and family values. Given the nature of the topics, the sector must be dynamic, creative and constantly alert to the changes taking place in the Community and the world at large.

Already governments are expending significant budget allocations on these parallel and complementary processes through the Ministries with responsibility for Community Rural and Social Development and Youth. Large sums are also allocated through the NGO Community.

The Caribbean Community needs to recognise the potential contribution of this sector and mobilise the wide range of government and non-governmental resources to ensure that the benefits can be realised. Strategies for ensuring attainment of objectives in this sector will include:

- (i) strengthening of alliances among the various government and non-governmental organisations;
- (ii) packaging of relevant information into a deliverable form;
- (iii) the training of all persons engaged in this sector;
- (iv) a process of continuous review to ensure relevance .

5. Private Sector Involvement

Private firms and institutions are merging as important providers of education and training. They are particularly significant among adult learners and post-secondary school leavers and in the area of in-house training programmes.

Efforts should be made to optimize the contribution of private education and training institutions by:

- strengthening their management and programme delivery capacity;
- incorporating them within the overall policy framework for education and training and in associations appropriate to their level;
- official policies and actions directed towards quality assurance and maintenance of standards.

CRITICAL ELEMENTS FOR EFFECTING CHANGE

In order for reform strategies to be effective, certain critical elements must be given attention. These include:

- (i) Life-Long Learning;
- (ii) Culture;
- (iii) The Teaching Force;
- (iv) Application of Technology;
- (v) Certification and Articulation Arrangements;
- (vi) Accountability;
- (vii) Alliances between School and Community;
- (viii) Curriculum Reform;
- (ix) Financing;
- (x) Legal Framework.

1. Life-long Learning

Given the rapid change in information, the factor of the global village, and the rapid change in technology and the general market, it is obvious that formal schooling cannot equip our citizens with an education to maintain them throughout life. Education must therefore be concerned with the prevention of obsolescence in all spheres of life.

As a result of the foregoing there is need for a paradigm shift from education seen as schooling to one of life-long learning. Within the context of learning the following should operate:

- there should be an emphasis on teaching how to learn, with our school system,
- greater attempts should be made to integrate formal and non-formal education, while at the same time giving more value to adult and continuing education programmes within our systems,
- emphasis should be in the provision of learning opportunities through libraries, specified open learning centres, and the use of distance education methodologies in order to give effect to life long education. Existing school buildings and facilities should be definitely used to facilitate more open access and methodologies;
- accreditation processes should take cognizance of such open learning processes.

2. Culture

Culture which plays a critical role in human resource development is the context within which our educational system operates. It is also the means of empowering people to be liberated to their creativity and self development. Understanding and valuing our culture will allow our people to become full, unapologetic, self-confident, creative, sovereign human beings capable of embracing and accessing the wealth in our diversity in ethnicity, language, religion, art and technology.

3. The Teaching Force

Perhaps the most crucial challenge facing the education and training system is the inability to attract and retain appropriately qualified staff. The situation has assumed crisis proportions in many instances and is directly associated with:

- (i) unattractive remuneration and unfavourable conditions of service;
- (ii) low status and lack of recognition for the teaching profession;
- (iii) societal problems affecting conditions in schools and attitudes towards education; and
- (iv) the effect of these problems on the quality of life of teachers and their ability to cope.

These issues need to be addressed with urgency since a quality teaching force is pivotal to the success of any other strategies designed to meet the challenges of the Twenty-First Century.

Of crucial importance is the total framework within which teacher development is planned and organised. Once teachers are recruited, there should be legislation which states that they should not stand before classes for more than three to five years without the appropriate training and the appending qualifications which will certify them as teachers. In addition to this, there should be a system of retraining of teachers and re-certification after an acceptable period of time, for example, a period of five years. Conditions of service, career path, financial incentives and mechanisms for teacher appraisal are all important elements of such a framework. Courses should be offered to those who deliver special programmes, for example, courses in Adult Education.

Policies related to teacher education must target both initial training and the continuing development of the teaching force and take cognizance of the total personal development of persons. Pertinent issues in this regard include, *inter alia*, training in information technology, use of technology in the teaching/learning situation, orientation to research, and new directions in measurement and evaluation.

4. Application of Technology

The technology age brings with it both new challenges as well as opportunities. One major challenge is the transition to a knowledge-based economic system. The advances in technology and telecommunications however provide opportunities for the ready access to information as well as a means of reaching more persons through distance education programmes.

To grasp these opportunities, the Region would need to pursue, *inter alia*, the following developments -

- (i) the application of computer assisted learning where possible and in any event to serve all primary and secondary schools and the community in general;
- (ii) the computer facilities of tertiary institutions should be built or upgraded as a matter of urgency to meet the additional demands on these institutions;
- (iii) the Universities in the Region and other TLIs should establish themselves as a single computer network community; and
- (iv) the audio-visual and other educational technology capabilities of institutions at all levels of the education system should be expanded or upgraded, as appropriate.

5. Certification and Articulation Arrangements

A major concern which impacts on the efficiency of the education and training system is that of the lack of co-ordination between levels of the systems and between parallel academic and vocational tracks. The Region needs to establish as a matter of urgency a single coherent system of training and education with clearly defined levels of knowledge and skills, certification and job levels. This would help to create a single professional culture, linking persons who achieve education and training by different modalities. This has important implications for determining equivalency of academic and vocational levels and consequent career possibilities.

6. Accountability

Accountability at all levels of the education system must be seen as an essential requirement for ensuring quality, efficiency and value for money. Accountability in this sense goes beyond the purely financial, and has to include what has commonly come to be described as an academic audit. Funding for tertiary institutions need to move away from exclusive dependence on student enrolment as the benchmark to allow for some consideration of quality in the support of programmes.

Critical to the reform strategies foreseen for Caribbean education is the accountability of teachers at all levels of the system in relation to definite responsibilities and the performance of duties. Mobilisation of the support and assistance of the various teachers unions will be essential to achieving this goal.

7. Alliances between School and Community

It is essential that there be urgent and necessary alliance developed between the workplace and the school especially the tertiary level institutions. To this end, much of the curriculum should be market driven whilst paying some attention to skills for national development.

Equally important is the mechanism of involving the readily available resource of parents as partners in the teaching/learning process with the assistance of national bodies where they exist.

The support of the media should be enlisted in the promotion of knowledge about current issues relevant to national development and the inculcation of attitudes/values which are conducive to development.

8. Curriculum Reform

It is acknowledged that there should be general curriculum reform. With particular reference to delivery, the curriculum should be delivered in a modular form so that students would have the opportunity to complete courses or components relevant to their interests and needs and at their own pace of development. This approach will facilitate them with greater opportunities for access to the job market and for life-long learning.

9. Financing

The changes warranted in the scope and efficiency of the education and training sector would entail the adoption of strategies which expand the availability of financial resources and maximise the efficiency and effectiveness with which they are used.

Strategies for expanding the availability of financing resources should include:

- (i) larger fiscal contributions from governments;
- (ii) initiation or wider dissemination of measures for cost-sharing on a uniform basis or on a targeted basis;
- (iii) mobilisation of cash and in-kind assistance from foreign governments, agencies and institutions, including multilateral institutions.

Strategies for maximising effectiveness and efficiency of financial resource use should include:

- (i) development of institutional capacity for -
 - (a) strategic planning;
 - (b) programme budgeting; and
 - (c) performance audits and evaluation.

The determination of priorities must be better informed by research and data gathering on the potential or actual impact of educational activities and operations. There is need to prioritise strategically programmes that will prove to have optimal impact on the quality of education services.

10. Legal Framework

An adequate legal framework will be required to reflect the rights and responsibilities of all the stakeholders in the educational systems. Member countries which have not yet done so should amend their legislation to take account of the changes which are imperative.

At the regional level the Harmonisation of Educational Legislation which Ministers have already endorsed should be followed up.

SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS GENDER EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Informed by:

The Seventh Meeting of the Ministers responsible for Women's Affairs, The Bahamas, 1995; The Special Meeting of Ministers for Women's Affairs, Trinidad and Tobago, 1996

The Conference of Heads of Government had requested that special attention be given to the issue of male underachievement. In the consultations, it was acknowledged that this issue required more in depth research before any definitive interventions could be detailed and that the larger issue of gender equality should be addressed.

A Position Paper which reviewed available data and research prepared by the UWI Centre for Gender and Development Studies (Bailey, 1997) pointed out that:

- (i) "... although quantitatively, girls have an advantage over boys in education systems in the Caribbean, because of the pattern of participation in the educational process, qualitatively, girls are at a disadvantage when compared to their male counterparts."
- (ii) "Data exist which point to the fact that in the market-place males can succeed with fewer years of schooling than can their female counterparts." (Figueroa & Handa, 1996).
- (iii) "The patterns of Curriculum participation and achievement suggest that girls are leaving the secondary level of the education system without a strong scientific-technical base."

The recommendations in the study include research on gender socialisation and male underachievement.

The contextual frame for examining the problem is set out in the policy document Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice which was approved at the Seventh Meeting of the Ministers with responsibility for Women's Affairs held in The Bahamas in 1995.

The Mission Statement set out in the Policy document is as follows:

"A policy Statement on Gender Equality and Social Justice offers the Region a framework within which the structures of subordination can be identified and eliminated. These structures, which operate in the public and private spheres, related to educational opportunities, legal/human rights, shared opportunities, work value and rewards, when applied equally, deprive women of a balanced share of the Region's resources. To reform these systems and practices, based on principles of equality and justice, is to re-invest new energies into the Region's productive capital and the governance thereof."

The Goal of the Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice is:

"The building of new structures of power sharing at the household, community, national and regional levels where both men and women can participate fully in developing a system of co-operation in decision making, as equal partners in the sustainable development of our societies."

Gender inequality prevents the Region from mobilising all of our human resources in several ways. It has been observed that skills and jobs that are traditionally female are low-waged and this discourages men from these areas of study and work. The gender stereotyping of jobs also drives both males and females to traditional roles in the workplace which may not correspond to their real interest or potential.

The relationship between human resource development and gender equality may be summed up in the words of the preamble to the Regional Policy:

The process of transforming social relations based on principles of gender equality and social equity requires that women must occupy a position alongside men, in negotiating for, distributing and managing the Region's material and non-material resources.

One of the principles on which this transformation would rest is that the legal and human rights of women are developmental issues, related to increased output and stability, and are not primarily issues of social welfare.

The CARICOM Post-Beijing Regional Plan of Action to the Year 2000 which was approved at the Special Meeting of Ministers responsible for Women's Affairs in November 1996 recommends the conduct of participatory research on the impact of gender socialisation, the design of popular education and media productions and the development of modules on gender issues for use in the institutional and in-service training of teachers.

At the Special Meeting of the Ministers responsible for Women's Affairs held in Trinidad and Tobago in November 1996, the Secretariat was requested to formally submit the Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice to the Conference of Heads of Government.

The Conference is invited to consider and to formally endorse the Regional Policy on Gender Equality and Social Justice; and approve and support the research, training and education interventions to be undertaken within the context of the CARICOM Post Beijing Regional Plan of Action.

SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS

CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Informed by:

Recommendations of the Meetings of Ministers with responsibility for Children, Belize 1996 and Jamaica 1997.

The well being of Caribbean children and their families has been identified as a key concern and an integral element of any human resource development policy. The formative stage of development spans the period from birth through to eight years with 50 per cent of the intelligence development done by age four (4). It has been demonstrated that interventions made during this phase have a significant positive impact on development in later years. Studies have shown that children who are given the opportunity to go to pre-schools repeat less, tend not to drop-out, do better examinations and remain literate longer as adults.

The Ministers responsible for Children have made commitments to protect our children. In Belize in 1996, Caribbean Ministers with responsibility for Children signed the Belize Commitment to Action for the Rights of the Child. This document includes specific Commitments with respect to Budgeting for an Enabling Environment; Legal and Law Enforcement; Family Development and Empowerment in collaboration with NGOs and Communities.

The Belize Commitment also includes a Children's Resolution reflecting the position of fifty-two (52) children who attended the Children's Forum of the Caribbean Conference on the Rights of the Child.

At the meeting held in Jamaica in 1997, the Ministers identified specific interventions. The Meeting recognised that the agenda for children requires on-going implementation and sustained support, but agreed on priority actions that require immediate attention. These include:

- (i) the development of national processes to secure political, administrative and public consensus to shift the development agenda from a welfare orientation to a social development focus, putting children first as an investment in breaking the inter-generational cycles of poverty;
- (ii) the institutionalisation of a holistic approach to policy development and programme planning which gives primacy to the integration of the delivery of services for children and families;
- (iii) the development of participatory mechanisms to include not only public sector and civic society, but also children themselves in the process of decision making, programme implementation and evaluation;

- (iv) the continuation of work by government and co-operation partners towards the implementation of the 20/20 Initiative, the social investment formula adopted at the 1995 World Summit on Social Development, and the promotion of equity in the allocation of resources so that the needs of poor children and their families are addressed.

While agreeing and recommending that Early Childhood Education and Development should be given urgent attention, the Standing Committee of Ministers with responsibility for Education recognised that the success of this programme will depend on the collaboration and support from other sectors. The Ministers with responsibility for Children have also given their commitment to support the implementation of the Caribbean Plan of Action for Early Childhood Education, Care and Development 1995 - 2002, adopted at the Second Caribbean Conference on Early Childhood Education held in Barbados in 1997.

The Hon. Prime Minister, of Belize will formally present the Belize Commitment to Action for the Rights of the Child signed in Belize in 1996 and the Kingston Accord of 1997.

The Conference of Heads of Government will be invited to approve and support the strategic interventions identified by the Ministers with responsibility for Children.

SOCIAL INTERVENTIONS

HEALTH PROMOTION

Informed by:

Decisions of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health, St Vincent and the Grenadines, 1994.

Decisions of the Special Meeting of the Conference of Ministers responsible for Health, Barbados, April 1997.

The success of the Community's efforts to build creative and productive citizens depends on not only the interventions in education, but also on the health of the population.

Notwithstanding the improvement in the health status of the population, the good health status of the Community is now under serious threat. Not only the adult population, but also the health of children and youth has been increasingly at risk. Major problems include dramatic increases in obesity and risk factors for such conditions as heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes, unprecedented rise in substance abuse, HIV-AIDS, growth in mental health problems such as depression, deaths from suicides, accidents and violence especially in the young.

The health problems observed are related to habits and lifestyles that are inculcated in childhood, consolidated in adolescence and influenced by the physical, socio-economic and cultural environments. These threaten to erode the health gains which the Caribbean people have come to

enjoy and to foreshorten and devalue the potential of Caribbean human resources. These problems are already resulting in substantial and unaffordable health costs and can lead to a reduction in the returns on the earlier social investments in education and health.

This recognition of the links between today's health problems and lifestyles and living conditions led to the development of a Caribbean Charter for Health Promotion. The Charter, which builds on the Primary Health Care Strategy, recognises that multi sectoral interventions are needed for the development of healthy human capital. It calls for the implementation of six strategies:

- (i) Healthy Public Policy which calls for health and human development considerations to be taken into account in formulating and analysing policies. Critical to the health of children and youth are education policies which will provide for 'schooling' that meets the full range of children's learning and development needs and expanded investment in community based health services geared to children and youth.
- (ii) Creating Supportive Environments require the implementation of public health measures as well as school management practices and programs that will foster and maintain school and community environments that will support and reinforce the practice of health and life skills in young people and staff.
- (iii) Reorienting Health Services must be built into ongoing health sector reform initiatives and include a focus on equity, affordability, efficiency and effectiveness and the responsiveness of services community needs.
- (iv) Empowering Communities to Achieve Well-Being invites the development of linkages and programs which will encourage and enable schools, families, community leaders and NGOs to work together to promote health and quality of life.
- (v) Developing Personal Health Skills must ensure the provision of health and family life education for young people in and out of schools as well as community members to enable them to acquire the information and skills to make work individually and together to adopt healthier lifestyles.
- (vi) Building Alliances with the Media call for strategies that will seek to engage their interest in health and social development issues and to strengthen their capacity to place health and human development issues before the public in a balanced and informed way.

The Conference is invited to adopt the Health Promotion Charter as the framework for the development and implementation of health interventions complementary to and supportive of strategic interventions in the education sector.

HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Informed by:

Submission from the Special Meeting of Conference of Ministers responsible for Health, April 1997

In examining human resource development needs with respect to the health sector, the Special Meeting of the Conference of Ministers with responsibility for Health held in Barbados in April 1997 considered not only the Human Resource Needs, Policies and Plans, but also the Management of Human Resources.

The recommendations for Human Resource Needs, Policies and Plans are in principle consistent with the strategic interventions proposed by the Education sector, namely, a regional system for accreditation of Health Training Institutions, a rationalisation of training across the region with particular attention placed on financial accountability, cost containment and efficiency and the use of the concept of "Value for Money" as a criterion for decision making; the strengthening of regional universities to support research and development needs; and the need for the establishment of permanent mechanisms to facilitate dialogue between the services and the training institutions and other relevant sectors.

However, the Meeting made some specific recommendations for the Management of Human Resources which are here presented for consideration as a separate strategic intervention.

The Special Meeting noted that the current policies and procedures for human resource management do not facilitate modern approaches to personnel management in general and do not address the peculiar needs of the health sector and the reform initiatives being undertaken to ensure effective and efficient delivery of health care. The Meeting recognised that the human resource management issues should be considered within the context of public sector reform.

However it was noted that the health sector reform was moving ahead of the public sector reform process.

In this context, the Special Meeting of CMH has,

Recommended that special attention be given to the human resource development needs of the health sector reform which seek to delegate responsibility of critical personnel management functions to the Ministry of Health or its constituent operational units, especially those responsible for the delivery of personal health care on a twenty-four hour basis in order to enhance efficiency.

Also recommended that the Personnel Division of Ministries of Health be upgraded to assume responsibility for the delegated management components of the human resource development and management process.

The Special Meeting of CMH also addressed the question of Free Movement of Skills. The Meeting noted that a significant majority of health professionals are trained in tertiary level institutions other than UWI and UG and therefore,

Recommended that the decision of the Conference of Heads of Government on the free movement of graduates be extended to include professionals in areas allied to medicine who are graduates of accredited regional training institutions.

Critical to the issue of the free movement of skills is the question of registration of professionals and the monitoring of the practice of all categories of health professionals. While noting that a regional registration mechanism for the Registered Nurse had already been established, the Meeting –

Agreed that regional mechanisms be established for the registration and monitoring of the practice of all categories of health professionals.

Also agreed that a common regional approach to the registration of Non-traditional Health Practitioners should also be pursued and that a working group be established to undertake the required studies.

The Conference is invited to consider and approve the proposals for the Management of human resources within the health sector.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Informed by:

Special Meeting of the Standing Committee of Ministers responsible for Education, Barbados, May 1997.

Consultations of Science and Technology in the Context of Single Market and Economy.

Science and Technology pervades all sectors of our economy and consequently there is need for greater emphasis to be placed on the application of Science and Technology to the development process.

Science and Technology is not just limited to application to productive processes, but also has application at other levels. At the community and personal level, an understanding of Science and Technology contributes to a better appreciation of the world around us, to include our relationship with the environment; and it also leads to increased levels of comfort in dealing with technology encountered in the day to day activities.

The SCME has placed high priority on the development of competencies in Science and Technology and in TVET at all levels of the education system. Human resource development in

these areas needs to operate within an established policy framework. In this regard, attention needs to be given to leadership and policy development in this area.

Several recommendations have been made in relation to this sector. These include strengthening of national and regional Science and Technology Councils; programmes to improve the teaching of science and mathematics at the primary level; community development and improvement through the application of science and technology; and the establishment of a technology extension service.

The Conference will be invited to -

endorse the need for leadership to a policy in Science and Technology to guide the human resource development in this area.

Submitted for the consideration of the Conference are:

- (i) Programme of Work and Budget Proposal by Special Meeting of Ministers responsible for Education, Barbados, May 1997;
- (ii) Programme of Action submitted by Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO); and
- (iii) Post-Beijing Plan of Action to Year 2000.

BRIDGETOWN DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES

We, the Heads of State and Government of the Caribbean nations of Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Grenada, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Haiti, Jamaica, the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, the Republic of Suriname and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and of the United States of America, meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados on May 10, 1997, pledge to strengthen our co-operation in responding to the challenges of the coming millennium, in a spirit of partnership and mutual respect.

2. We affirm our unswerving commitment to the norms of international law and the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and in the Charter of the Organization of American States and our respect for the sovereignty of states, multilateral approaches, democratic traditions, human rights, good governance, human dignity and the rule of law.

3. We recognise the heterogeneity and diversity yet shared identity of our family of nations and people bonded by historic and ethnic origins, cultural ties and affinity and close social and economic links. We remain appreciative of the significant contribution of our respective nationals as immigrant communities to the development of each other's societies.

4. We also recognise the inextricable link between trade, economic development, security and prosperity in our societies. We therefore declare our intention to act in concert to improve the economic well-being and security of all our citizens, to defend and strengthen our democratic institutions and to provide for social justice and stability.

5. As we enter a new century marked by rapid expansion and globalisation of finance and investment, production and commerce, driven by revolutionary developments in technology, we acknowledge the need for a new era in our partnership. In this context, we re-affirm our support for the Declaration of Principles and Plan of Action adopted by the 1994 Summit of the Americas in Miami. We recall that this process undertook to consider the special needs of small economies, with a view to enhancing their level of development and preparing them to meet the challenges posed by the inexorable trends of globalisation and liberalisation of the world economy, and the creation of the Free Trade Area of the Americas. We note the increasing role of the human, technological and communication capacities required for operating in this new competitive international environment and the current reality in most Caribbean States and accept the need for systematic, co-operative initiatives to strengthen the quality of their human resources and technological capacity.

6. Firm in our conviction that stable and prosperous economies, buttressed by the rule of law, are bulwarks against the forces of transnational crime, we are concerned by the growing strength and capabilities of transnational criminal organisations and drug cartels, their attempts to distort and weaken our free economies and democratic systems, and the effects which their activities and presence have on levels of violence and basic public order. We declare our resolve to collaborate

in combating both organised transnational crime and the threat posed to our peoples and the foundations of our nations by illegal firearms and ammunition trafficking. We are acutely concerned by the increasing incidence of alien smuggling and commit ourselves to search for creative and innovative ways to improve our justice systems and the co-operation between them, in order to provide our societies with that sense of security and stability so necessary to freely pursue sustainable social and economic development.

7. We recognise that despite the substantial progress in dealing with debt problems, high foreign debt burdens still hinder the development of some of our countries. We therefore affirm the importance of appropriate debt management measures including those in the programmes of the International Financial Institutions.

8. We affirm our strong commitment to internationally recognised labour standards and worker rights, especially freedom of association and collective bargaining. We underscore the importance of the empowerment of women to permit their full participation in the political and economic spheres, through fair access to education, health care and credit and recognise that addressing and preventing violence against women is an important step towards our goal of strengthening democracy. Vibrant, sustainable and equitable development requires the contribution of all members of society.

9. To achieve these objectives and maintain our process of consultation, we agree that all Ministers/Secretaries of State of the nations of the Caribbean responsible for Foreign Affairs and the Secretary of State of the United States of America will meet to oversee and report to us on an annual basis on the implementation of the Plan of Action appended hereto. In addition, we hereby establish Joint Committees on Justice and Security and on Development, Finance and Environmental Issues, the latter to work in close collaboration with the CARICOM/US Trade and Investment Council, to facilitate an increasing and effective level of communication, co-ordination and follow-up among our Governments.

10. Towards these ends, we adopt and issue this Bridgetown Declaration of Principles, detailing our beliefs and uniting our efforts to strengthen the ability of our States to pursue sustainable development and to preserve our democracy, peace, economic and social progress and to which we hereby affix our signatures.

Signed by Lester Bird for the Government of Antigua and Barbuda on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Hubert Ingraham for the Government of the Commonwealth of The Bahamas on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Owen Arthur for the Government of Barbados on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Dean Barrow for the Government of Belize on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Edison James for the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Jaime David for the Government of the Dominican Republic on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Keith Mitchell for the Government of Grenada on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Samuel Hinds for the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Rene Preval for the Government of the Republic of Haiti on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Percival Patterson for the Government of Jamaica on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Denzil Douglas for the Government of the Federation of St. Christopher and Nevis on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Vaughan Lewis for the Government of Saint Lucia on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by James Mitchell for the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Jules Wijdenbosch for the Government of the Republic of Suriname on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by Basdeo Panday for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the 10th day of May 1997

Signed by William Clinton for the Government of the United States of America on the 10th day of May 1997.

CARIBBEAN/UNITED STATES SUMMIT PLAN OF ACTION

I. TRADE, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

II. JUSTICE AND SECURITY

We, the Heads of State and Government participating in the 1997 Caribbean/ United States Summit in Bridgetown, Barbados committed to furthering the objectives set out in the Bridgetown Declaration of Principles, conscious of the importance of the social and economic development of the Caribbean nations as the foundation for peace, democracy, stability and well being of the region, and mindful of the need for specific measures to develop further the shared economic and security interests between the Caribbean and the United States,

Adopt and Issue the following Plan of Action which reflects our political and policy decisions in order to give effect to the Summit dialogue which we have just concluded:

I. TRADE, DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

1. Enhancement of Trade and Investment

We affirm that strengthened trade and investment ties between the United States and the Caribbean are essential to promote the economic development and diversification of the region and to improve the well-being of all our citizens. We recognise the special challenges and opportunities we will face in the highly globalised economy of the Twenty-First Century. We are committed to work together to advance the prosperity and economic security of the people of the Caribbean, by facilitating expanded trade with the United States through improved market access, increased investment in the Caribbean, and availability of technology throughout the region.

We pledge to strengthen efforts to implement sound market-oriented policies and open trade and investment regimes, which are critical to attracting and protecting long-term sustainable investment and to enhancing the competitiveness of Caribbean products. In such an environment, preferential access afforded by the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) is also important. We recall that in 1984, the United States Government therefore introduced the CBI, providing duty-free access for some 90 per cent of the tariff items exported by the Caribbean to the United States, but that some products of interest to the Caribbean were excluded.

We note also that in the same year, the Caribbean governments introduced the Nassau Understanding on Structural Adjustment, thereby initiating a process of import liberalisation.

We pledge to enhance Caribbean-U.S. trade relationship by:

1.1 supporting the expeditious passage of legislation by the United States, to confer CBI treatment on an extended basis, to products of Caribbean origin which are currently excluded;

1.2 working jointly towards the further reduction of trade barriers between the United States and Caribbean countries and endeavouring to refrain from introducing new import restrictions, consistent with World Trade Organisation (WTO) rules;

1.3 continuing to work with all concerned parties to achieve mutually satisfactory marketing arrangements for Caribbean bananas, recognising the critical importance to Caribbean countries of the continued access of Caribbean bananas to the traditional markets of the European Union;

1.4 finding, at the earliest opportunity, a mechanism to facilitate rapid consultations on trade-related issues;

1.5 the conduct of a United States trade and investment mission to the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) and other Caribbean countries and by similar missions from the Caribbean to the United States;

1.6 developing within six months, a plan of action for promoting bilateral trade particularly in the agricultural and service sectors, recognising that trade prospects in these sectors and their expansion and diversification are critical components in achieving Caribbean economic security and advancement. Furthermore, the United States will ensure the provision of grant assistance to the Windward Islands in developing and implementing a strategy to nurture the development of Caribbean agribusiness;

1.7 a review by the United States, of its bilateral assistance to the OECS Region and the exploration of measures to increase such assistance and to enhance its delivery in targeted areas;

1.8 seeking to provide measures including technical assistance, in support of programmes that promote internal structural adjustment;

1.9 the provision of technical assistance to Caribbean countries to support their economic diversification and in particular, to assist the OECS countries in pooling their resources in order to enhance the competitiveness of their products;

1.10 facilitating the Caribbean's implementation of its Uruguay Round commitments. In so doing, the United States will initiate a three-year grant agreement with Caribbean countries to provide technical assistance for trade liberalisation and trade and labour relations, with special assistance for the Windward Islands; and

1.11 the United States seeking to enter into a three-year grant agreement with the University of the West Indies (UWI) and other appropriate institutions in both the Caribbean and the United States, to assist the Caribbean region in formulating a uniform legal approach to meeting new trade commitments and by extending a grant to the Caribbean Law Institute to assist Attorneys-General in the Windward Islands in drafting trade-related legislation in priority areas of reform.

2. Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)

In keeping with the Declaration of Principles of the Miami Summit, we recommit ourselves to work towards the completion of the negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas by the year 2005. In the design of the FTAA, account will be taken of the need for provisions to facilitate the integration of smaller economies and to increase their levels of development. Against this background, we endorse the call for the launching of the formal negotiations of the FTAA at the Second Summit of the Americas in Chile, in March 1998. We instruct our Trade Ministers to ensure that the necessary preparatory work has been completed by that date.

We recognise that in our hemisphere, the Caribbean is a region with the smallest and many vulnerable economies, with a range of specific characteristics which could affect their effective participation in the FTAA and their integration into the international economy.

We therefore agree to:

2.1 endorse the continued functioning of the FTAA Working Group on Smaller Economies;

2.2 endorse the recommendations of the Working Group on Smaller Economies to provide opportunities to facilitate the participation of the smaller economies during the negotiations and their effective integration in the FTAA, to make every effort to reduce the transitional costs and minimise dislocation to their economies during its implementation;

2.3 the need for technical assistance – as recommended by the Working Group on Smaller Economies – to strengthen Caribbean human, institutional and infrastructural development necessary to assist in the adjustment process and to enable them to participate meaningfully. In this regard, we urge Caribbean countries to analyse their particular circumstances and identify their specific technical assistance needs; and

2.4 encourage the smaller economies in the Caribbean to consider the early implementation, to the extent possible, of internal adjustments which will enhance their ability to participate effectively in the FTAA.

3. Telecommunications

We note that access to modern telecommunications services is indispensable to the development of international trade as well as to national and regional, social and economic development and security. Various factors which influence telecommunications services such as economic size, per capita income, technology, competition, pricing and international traffic patterns are noted. We also note that several national and multilateral initiatives are underway to reform the international settlement regime and that the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) recently stated that there is an urgent need for action on this issue. We further note that there is a large volume of incoming calls emanating from citizens of Caribbean countries who live abroad, mainly in the United States.

We reaffirm the telecommunications commitments made in the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Summit of the Americas and the Declaration and Plan of Action of the Senior Telecommunications Officials of the Organisation of American States (OAS). We are engaged in

a review process in the ITU. We applaud the advances in telecommunications liberalisation made in the WTO and reaffirm the commitments made in the WTO Telecommunications Agreement. We will endeavor to put in place policies that foster a competitive market environment, which encourages private investment in telecommunications infrastructure and accelerates transition to the Global Information Infrastructure. In so doing, we will make every effort to ensure that any transition to competition fosters economic growth, deepens regional integration and serves to reduce the economic, social and educational disparities in all our countries.

We therefore pledge to:

3.1 encourage the development of efficient, cost effective and competition-enhancing telecommunications systems in the region;

3.2 assist the Caribbean countries in examining their telecommunications systems with a view to encouraging competition and exploiting investment opportunities for value-added services as well as for basic telecommunications services;

3.3 give priority consideration to exploiting the new technologies in telecommunications, including the increased use of electronic networks such as the Internet, to expand access to information, facilitate easy access by educational and health institutions to the Global Information Infrastructure and increase the exchange of views on telecommunications issues;

3.4 maintain the multilateral consultative process during the revision of rules for accounting rates, taking into account the implications for Caribbean countries of any changes in those rates;

3.5 support programmes of the ITU and other Multilateral Agencies, such as the World Bank and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), to provide governments which have made a commitment, or are taking steps to initiate competition in the context of their telecommunications services, with technical assistance on critical issues such as monitoring and reviewing licensing terms, facilitating private sector investment, establishing independent regulatory agencies and developing interconnection, tariff rebalancing and universal service policies; and

3.6 encourage and facilitate participation in appropriate training courses by officials of Caribbean governments which are endeavouring to introduce competitive policies. Expert agencies in the United States and the Caribbean should strengthen and expand training, technical assistance and the exchange of information.

4. Economic Development and Financial Flows

We share the common goal of achieving stable, sustainable economic development and widespread prosperity for all citizens in the region. We affirm the central role of a dynamic private sector in realizing these goals. We also affirm the importance of sound economic policies that provide the environment for private sector-led growth, by emphasising macro-economic stability, the development of our people's education and skills, technological advancement and financial market development.

We recognise that expanded economic ties with countries throughout the region are also vital for fostering growth and prosperity, especially for the smaller economies of the Caribbean region, and we welcome the decision by the Committee on Hemispheric Financial Issues, on 17 February 1997, to establish a Working Group on Smaller Economies, to better focus on the needs and unique problems facing smaller countries' economies, particularly those of the Caribbean.

We also recognise from recent trends in financial flows into the Caribbean, the urgent need to seek new ways of achieving development goals, including the development of capital markets and the promotion of private investment.

The United States welcomes the Caribbean commitment to the process of regional integration. We note the efforts of both the World Bank and the IDB to provide technical assistance to support regional integration efforts. We encourage the International Financial Institutions to strengthen and expand existing programmes to better advance these important objectives.

We also reaffirm the importance of developing viable credit institutions to serve the needs of micro-enterprises and urge the International Financial Institutions to give this matter urgent consideration.

We welcome the continuing commitment of the United States to assist Caribbean nations in their economic reforms by:

4.1 joining the Caribbean in seeking co-ordination with other donors on common priorities and approaches to promote private sector growth in the region;

4.2 continuing ongoing regional programmes in the Eastern Caribbean that focus on environmental concerns, disaster preparedness and the expansion of trade;

4.3 maintaining significant programmes in Haiti and making every effort to protect others in Jamaica and Guyana;

4.4 exploring mechanisms to promote private sector development;

4.5 finding institutional mechanisms, including trade missions, to encourage dialogue between the Caribbean and U.S. private sectors;

4.6 exploring ways by which current bilateral and multilateral debt management programmes can support adjustment efforts in highly-indebted countries;

4.7 exploring the possibility of increasing technical co-operation in the areas of:

- (a) strengthening and modernising legal and supervisory systems (including prudential regulation and supervisory capacities) in order to bolster savers' confidence and to strengthen financial systems; and

(b) improved investor education by drawing on the expertise and experience of appropriate institutions in the United States;

4.8 accepting the pledge of the United States to expand its regional co-operation programmes in the Eastern Caribbean, to include a focus on education and micro-enterprise development; and

4.9 joining in the call to the IDB to meet its commitment under the eighth replenishment, to target 35 per cent of Bank lending to smaller economies, including those in the Caribbean.

5. Disaster Preparedness and Response

We recognise that the Caribbean region is vulnerable to several forms of natural disasters including hurricanes, volcanoes, earthquakes and flooding. This vulnerability has been compounded by the geographic situation of the region, which makes the Caribbean Sea a transit area for many cargoes of a potentially hazardous nature.

We also recognise the important role of preparedness and mitigation in reducing the vulnerability of our states to such natural disasters. We pledge to continue to co-ordinate our efforts and improve our ability to detect, monitor and respond to natural disasters. We affirm the priority of investment in planning, preparedness and mitigation initiatives, to strengthen the capacity of countries in the region to protect themselves from disasters and to decrease the need for emergency response resources in the future.

We therefore agree that:

5.1 the United States will continue to assist, whenever possible, in the provision of logistical support in disaster response, including search and rescue and the supply of humanitarian assistance;

5.2 unaffected countries will give speedy consideration to assisting affected countries in their rehabilitation process;

5.3 the Caribbean nations will take steps to reduce damage by hurricane and other natural disasters, by encouraging effective building design and construction standards through the promotion of the Caribbean Uniform Building Code (CUBIC);

5.4 the United States will provide technical assistance to support the building of a regional capacity for conducting natural hazard assessments, integrating these assessments into national development planning processes, establishing hurricane models for vulnerable countries, undertaking seismic monitoring of volcanoes – including underwater volcanoes – and training in the handling of hazardous materials during chemical emergencies;

5.5 the United States will assist the Caribbean in exploring the availability and means of accessing disaster assistance programmes currently available in the World Bank and the IDB;

5.6 the relevant United States agencies will provide training opportunities in areas such as the handling of hazardous materials, dealing with chemical emergencies and disaster prediction and forecasting;

5.7 the United States and Caribbean agencies will co-operate to develop and promote common search and rescue protocols to govern medical evacuations, support logistics for humanitarian supplies, and overflight in search for survivors and survey damage;

5.8 we will develop and support mechanisms and procedures for civil-military, public and multi-country co-operation in planning joint exercises and mutual assistance for response to natural and technological disasters in the region;

5.9 we will continue efforts to maintain the Co-operative Hurricane Upper-Air Network; and

5.10 the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) will collaborate in defining further areas of technical co-operation.

6. Aviation

We recognise the importance of air transport to the Caribbean region, both as a means of linking the various countries, as well as an essential component for supporting the vital tourism industry. We note that Caribbean Governments and the Government of the United States continue to emphasise the need for the safe and orderly development of civil aviation. We further note the process of privatisation of air carriers underway in the Caribbean. The increase in traffic activity in the region will require an expansion in the capacity of the aviation infrastructure, the creation of the type of regulatory environment to facilitate such growth and the strengthening of the region's institutional arrangements to effectively administer the complete spectrum of aviation activities.

The safety and security of international aviation is the responsibility of all countries through their international commitments via the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), relevant bilateral air services agreements and national legal and regulatory action. We recognise that in the nature of international aviation, co-operation among states is vital to safety and security. In this regard, the work of the Federal Aviation Administration International Aviation Safety Assessment programme has been noted.

We therefore agree to:

6.1 work co-operatively to ensure that ICAO has the resources to continue and, where appropriate, expand the aviation safety oversight programmes and security arrangements;

6.2 explore, in conjunction with ICAO, the feasibility of establishing a regional entity to assist with and address issues relating to safety oversight and related regulatory matters;

6.3 develop appropriate aviation disaster recovery and search and rescue plans and co-ordinate these regionally;

6.4 identify sources of financing, including private sector, bilateral and multilateral as appropriate, to implement institutional programmes and to improve infrastructure, including expansion of runway capacity and upgrading the airside safety facilities (runway lighting and marking systems, navigation, communications and surveillance systems, cargo and passenger handling facilities) where needed. These programmes will include assistance in achieving the economic potential offered by aviation and establishing individual and regional civil aviation capabilities that are financially and technically self-sustaining; and

6.5 support the introduction of aviation satellite technologies and the Global Positioning System (GPS)/Global Navigational Satellite System (GNSS) in the Caribbean for navigation, surveillance and communication through ICAO and air space user groups.

7. Educational Co-operation

We recognise the critical contribution made by education and training to economic growth, to the improved standard of living and the reduction of poverty of our peoples. We also recognise that development of human resources is both a cause and effect of economic development. We acknowledge that new technologies demand new skills and that as the role of the private sector expands and as the public sector is modernised, demand increases for qualified personnel in various fields such as science and technology, informatics, finance and banking, utility operation and regulation, and management skills. The educational institutions at different levels therefore, need to be geared to deliver the required training and professional preparation.

We therefore agree to:

7.1 develop arrangements for appropriate joint action between the universities in the Caribbean and advanced research and specialised institutions in the United States, particularly in such areas as science and technology and informatics and key economic and management fields;

7.2 increase opportunities for qualified individuals from the Caribbean to study at US universities and military service academies and also to receive short-term training in the United States or in third countries; and

7.3 establish regional training programmes designed to broaden the skill base in key economic and management fields. These programmes will be targeted to individuals who traditionally lack access to such fields and training.

8. Sustainable Development

We recognise that the Caribbean, comprising mainly small islands and low-lying coastal states, is extremely dependent on the marine and coastal environment. We note that the Continental Caribbean is also richly endowed with tropical rainforests and other ecosystems and contains, in

the Guiana Shield, one of the last major sources of fresh water on the planet. The Caribbean possesses many of the world's oldest known genetic species of marine and terrestrial biodiversity of significant scientific and commercial value.

We also recognise that the major economic activities of the Caribbean – tourism (land-based and cruise), agriculture, mining (petroleum, bauxite, gold and other minerals), fishing and forestry – are extremely dependent on a sound environment. The sustainability of these economic activities and their continued contribution to the development of the Caribbean, are inextricably linked to the preservation of the environment.

As a bordering country of the Caribbean Basin, the United States welcomes the opportunity to work co-operatively with its Caribbean neighbours to advance sustainable development and maintain the quality and integrity of the Caribbean Sea.

Recognising the importance of a healthy environment to our countries, we agree that these threats can only be attenuated by global, hemispheric, bilateral co-operation and national action and commit ourselves to work at all levels, towards making the Caribbean environment more secure.

We therefore agree:

8.1 to implement the relevant provisions of the 1994 Barbados Declaration and Plan of Action on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, the 1994 Declaration and Plan of Action of the Summit of Americas, the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) Conference to Develop a Global Programme for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities, and the 1996 Bolivia Declaration and Plan of Action on Sustainable Development in the Hemisphere. Institutions in the Caribbean and the United States with mandates and programmes in the various areas of the four Declarations and Plans of Action referred to above, will develop a collaborative programme to advance the work in the critical areas identified in these Declarations and Plans of Action;

8.2 to enable governmental agencies to access and build upon the best information available by exploring the use of the latest information technology to create a virtual Caribbean Centre for Environment and Development. This Centre will connect databases and projects of international, regional and national academic, business and financial organisations, which have already undertaken related work on development and environmental protection in the region. The University of the West Indies Centre for Environment and Development (UWICED) will be the main Caribbean node in this process;

8.3 to collaborate in the development and implementation of:

- (a) a fisheries protection management plan to ensure a sustained supply of regional fish stocks; and
- (b) conservation measures, including the preservation of threatened marine species and the reduction of fishery by-catch;

8.4 to co-operate to ensure that the current round of climate change negotiations concludes successfully and on schedule;

8.5 to work towards obtaining international agreement in making the Caribbean Sea an environmentally sustainable zone;

8.6 that the United States will assist the Caribbean in its efforts to access resources from the Global Environment Facility (GEF), including provision of technical assistance with regard to the drafting of environmental legislation, in order to facilitate the strengthening of the human resource capacity of the Caribbean, in the area of environmental protection;

8.7 to co-operate in global efforts, including proposals with the participation of our private sectors, to limit and reduce greenhouse gas emissions;

8.8 to endeavour to improve general public awareness of the link between economic activity and environmental protection, through education and outreach programmes, targeted particularly at young people, recognising the usefulness of the Global Learning and Observations to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) programme;

8.9 to work towards the implementation of the International Coral Reef Initiative Framework for Action and the Tropical Americas Regional Action Plan, strengthening the monitoring of coral reefs and exploring the establishment of a regional node for the Global Coral Reef Monitoring Network;

8.10 to improve management and disposal of solid and liquid waste including ship-generated waste, and to strengthen existing national and regional plans to combat oil pollution; and

8.11 to welcome the implementation by the United States, of the Caribbean Clean Energy Initiative.

II. JUSTICE AND SECURITY

1. Reduction of Crime and Violence

We recognise that crime within national borders and organised transnational crime threaten democratic institutions, undermine economic development, engender assaults on health, safety and security and continue adversely to affect the welfare of the peoples of the United States and the Caribbean. We also recognise that there are limitations in the laws and the law enforcement agencies of the Caribbean region. We pledge to collaborate in modernising crime control laws, strengthening the institutional capacities of these agencies through technical assistance, resource strengthening and multi-agency collaboration.

We therefore agree:

1.1 to collaborate with regional institutions in the provision of technical assistance for reform and strategic planning in police and other law enforcement agencies;

1.2 to accord high priority to the provision of training to law enforcement officials. The United States intends to continue to provide training for such officials;

1.3 to collaborate with other States and international organisations to support regional training institutions;

1.4 to promote multi-agency collaboration, nationally and regionally, to enhance the intelligence capability of Caribbean law enforcement agencies;

1.5 that the United States will continue to assist Caribbean States in the latter's efforts to collect, analyse and share law enforcement information through appropriate systems, having regard to ongoing regional assessments;

1.6 that the United States will continue to provide technical assistance and training in crime prevention and reduction strategies and techniques;

1.7 that the United States will contribute to a United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP) regional legal reform assistance project which is designed to assist Caribbean countries in the development of drug control laws, in accordance with the standards and criteria set by the United Nations Conventions;

1.8 to encourage transnational law enforcement co-operation through mechanisms such as the exchange of law enforcement personnel; and

1.9 to take, where applicable, and constitutionally permissible, active steps to conclude and implement mutual legal assistance and extradition regimes.

2. Arms Trafficking Control Regime for the Caribbean

We acknowledge the threat posed by illegal trafficking in arms, ammunition, and other similar materials to the moral fabric of our societies and the well-being of our peoples, as well as the social, economic, cultural, and political foundations of our respective countries.

We acknowledge that the threat posed by this traffic to our societies is compounded by its linkage to the illicit traffic in drugs.

The United States has been a significant country of origin for firearms illegally diverted to other nations. Illegal trafficking in firearms facilitates criminal activity including drug trafficking in these countries as it does in the United States.

We are determined to rid the Caribbean region of the scourge of this traffic by adopting strategies and measures which have the highest possible legal status and enforceability. Additionally, we pledge to work within existing regional and international organisations to combat the illegal traffic in firearms, ammunition and other similar materials.

We pledge to co-operate in:

2.1 improving the mechanisms for the exchange of information and intelligence on a regular basis by means of appropriate international communications systems;

2.2 establishing comparable systems for the licensing and regulation of manufacturers, importers and exporters of firearms, ammunition, firearms components and explosives, and for import and export permits;

2.3 examining the adequacy of existing laws and regulations in our respective countries and strengthening enforcement of such laws as necessary to control the authorised import and export of arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials;

2.4 examining the adequacy of existing legislation to combat the illegal manufacture and traffic in arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials and strengthening such laws where necessary;

2.5 adopting model regulations on harmonised export/import documentation and procedures for the movement of firearms, taking account of the work of regional and international organizations in this area;

2.6 pre- and post-shipment verification of licensed shipment of arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials to prevent their diversion into criminal hands;

2.7 identifying a national contact point in each country, including law enforcement officials, to act as operational liaisons for the transmittal of firearms trace requests, investigative assistance and law enforcement intelligence;

2.8 the continued provision, by the United States, of technical and other assistance to Caribbean States to assist law enforcement agencies in the control of the illicit traffic in arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials and the provision of training in the relevant areas including:

(a) identification of weapons;

(b) information gathering and analysis especially related to the identification of traffickers in and shippers of illegal firearms, and means of concealment in cargoes; and

- (c) improving the efficiency of personnel managing conventional and non-conventional points of entry in searching for and detecting arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials;

2.9 establishing joint training projects and exchange programmes for appropriate law enforcement personnel to:

- (a) determine the scope of illicit traffic in firearms, firearms components, ammunition, and explosives in the Caribbean region;
- (b) improve the search for and recording of these materials for tracing purposes;
- (c) enhance security at ports and airports; learn about new concealment methods; and
- (d) assist nations to evaluate and identify, both previously seized firearms, ammunition and explosives, as well as those recovered as the result of current enforcement actions.

Negotiation of an International Agreement

We recognise that the conclusion of an instrument establishing enforceable rights and obligations is an effective tool in the fight against illicit traffic in arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials and, to this end, we commit ourselves to work towards the early adoption of an international agreement against the illicit manufacturing and trafficking in arms, ammunition, explosives and other similar materials.

3. Illicit Drugs: Reduction, Education, Rehabilitation and Eradication

We recognise the threat to hemispheric values caused by the traffic in and use of illicit substances and the compelling need to give the highest priority and importance to primary drug abuse prevention programmes, particularly those directed to the youth of our respective societies.

We also acknowledge that the need to reduce both demand and supply should be addressed within the framework of a comprehensive, balanced and integrated strategy.

We are determined to devise, develop and evaluate a comprehensive multilateral strategy, within the context of the principle of joint hemispheric consultation and determination on issues of regional importance, indelibly inscribed in hemispheric relations through the Summit of the Americas process launched by the Plan of Action in December 1994.

We therefore agree that:

3.1 the United States will co-operate with other donors in -

- (a) the provision of necessary assistance and training to Caribbean States for the development and promotion of demand reduction programmes; and

(b) seeking means to develop and implement viable alternative occupational activities.

3.2 there would be -

(a) an exchange of information and ideas on demand reduction; and

(b) an intensification of efforts to reduce the domestic cultivation of cannabis and the production of illegal drugs;

3.3 any additional action contemplated will be consistent with the Organisation of American States/Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (OAS/CICAD) Anti-Drug Strategy in the Hemisphere and supportive of the Plan of Action for Drug Control Co-ordination and Co-operation in the Caribbean, resulting from the UNDCP-sponsored Regional Meeting on Drug Control Co-operation held in Barbados in 1996;

3.4 in addition to its assistance to Caribbean States, the United States will engage in a US\$5.5 billion demand reduction campaign within its own borders;

3.5 each Caribbean State should establish by appropriate legislation, or otherwise, a national organisation to pursue effective co-ordination of drug programmes both domestically and in partnership with regional and international bodies of similar nature; and that the United States, in collaboration with other donors, will continue to provide technical assistance and training to national bodies to enable them to promote and develop programmes, activities and projects, efficiently and effectively; and

3.6 each Caribbean State will promote demand reduction programmes to include -

(a) programmes of education at all levels of society by means of the maximum use of print and electronic media and other forms of communication, with a view to increasing awareness of the dangers of drug use and abuse;

(b) school and community based initiatives; and

(c) treatment and rehabilitation programmes.

4. Strengthening Criminal Justice Systems

We believe that for democracies to provide justice and security for their peoples, they must have independent, effective and efficient criminal justice systems.

We acknowledge that the need for the modernisation of the criminal justice systems in the region is urgent and that improvements are required in several areas. We recognise the fundamental principle of the independence of the judiciary in the administration of justice in all our States and we will co-operate to uphold this principle.

The United States reaffirms its commitment to continue to provide assistance in respect of the following:

4.1 a second phase of the UNDCP regional legal reform assistance project designed to train personnel in the prosecution and adjudication of drug, money laundering, and asset forfeiture cases;

4.2 modernisation of the judicial, law enforcement and penal systems of Caribbean States through the provision of equipment and training;

The United States also intends to:

4.3 continue to co-operate with other donors to assist Caribbean States in the development of contemporary and efficient forensic capabilities;

We intend to:

4.4 work together to investigate alternatives to incarceration; and

4.5 pursue with the international financial institutions, means to improve plant and physical infrastructure of the courts, law enforcement facilities, and penal institutions.

5. Combating Attempts to Corrupt Officials

We are aware that the vast wealth of international criminal organisations may be used to corrupt public officials. We are determined to detect and punish such corruption in our own States.

Recognising that the laws of many Caribbean States do not provide an adequate legislative basis to prevent the corruption of public officials, we agree to co-operate in the development of appropriate measures as follows:

5.1 the drafting of model legislation for enactment in individual states;

5.2 the provision by the United States, of training and technical assistance to Caribbean States on enforcement mechanisms to combat corruption; and

5.3 consideration by Caribbean States of the ratification, in accordance with their internal procedures, of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption, and requesting the OAS and other appropriate organisations to recommend to the Heads of Government, within six months, additional actions that should be taken to strengthen effective implementation of the Convention.

6. Combating Money Laundering

We recognise that money laundering permits drug trafficking and other criminal organizations to perpetuate their criminal activity.

Money laundering is an extremely corrosive force. It undermines the integrity of financial institutions. It corrupts officials and threatens political stability. It can distort economies, skew currency markets and create unfair advantages over legitimate enterprises.

We agree to continue working together to strengthen national, regional and international action against money laundering and we express our support for Caribbean Financial Action Task Force (CFATF) –sponsored regional anti-money laundering training initiatives.

We therefore also agree:

6.1 to implement the 1988 United Nations Convention Against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances;

6.2 to endeavour to adopt the international standards to combat money laundering set forth in the Recommendations of the CFATF, the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the OAS/CICAD Model Regulations and the Communiqué from the Summit of the Americas Ministerial Meeting on Money Laundering; and

6.3 that, to this end, the United States will co-operate with other donors, with a view to the development and implementation of the projects mentioned hereunder -

- (a) establishment of a Caribbean Continuing Legal Education Institute at the UWI to provide training in the conduct, investigation, and prosecution of money laundering and asset forfeiture proceedings for judges, prosecutors and law enforcement personnel;
- (b) the provision of training for relevant personnel in the conduct of financial investigations, the tracing, seizing and forfeiture of assets acquired as a result of drug trafficking and other serious crime, and in the establishment of national anti-money laundering units;
- (c) the development of minimum regulatory standards for the domestic and offshore banking sectors, international business corporations, and non-bank financial institutions in accordance with the Basle Committee and the FATF;
- (d) the enhancement of the capacities of the customs sectors in the region in the conduct of money laundering investigations; and
- (e) the development and conclusion, where applicable, of an agreement to provide for the equitable sharing of assets forfeited as a result of co-operative efforts in the investigation and prosecution of money laundering cases.

7. Criminal Justice Protection Programme

In order to meet the rising threat to the criminal justice systems in Caribbean States in the form of the intimidation and elimination of witnesses, jurors, judicial and law enforcement personnel and their families, we agree:

7.1 to continue to work together towards the establishment of a Criminal Justice Protection Programme that would facilitate co-operation in the confidential protection of witnesses, jurors, judicial and law enforcement personnel and their families;

7.2 that, in furtherance of the establishment of the Criminal Justice Protection Programme, the United States pledges to continue to contribute technical assistance and training that will facilitate appropriate legislative and structural reforms in the medium and long term and which in the short term will include, in particular -

- (a) safe-house establishment and operational procedures;
- (b) the most advanced investigative methods and techniques, including the preparation of threat and risk assessments;
- (c) assessment, including psychological evaluation, of the suitability of witnesses for entry into long term protection programmes;
- (d) the handling of witnesses in protective custody;
- (e) personal security of witnesses, jurors, judicial and law enforcement personnel; and
- (f) the establishment of oversight mechanisms at the national level in the management of the system; and

7.3 to work with other nations and with regional organisations, including CICAD and UNDCP, to co-ordinate training and technical assistance efforts in this area.

8. Strengthening Regional Security Forces Combined and Co-operative Interdiction Efforts Collecting, Analysing and Sharing Information

We recognise the need for greater co-operation of security forces in the region to deal with illicit drug trafficking, alien smuggling, illegal trafficking in arms and threats to stability. We agree that no single nation has the ability to deal effectively with the threats to the security of the region, and that co-ordination, co-operation, and combined operations are necessary.

We also recognise that successful mechanisms, strategies, initiatives and working co-operation already exist in the region to counter the illicit trade in narcotics, psychotropic substances and other contraband, and note with satisfaction:

- (i) the commitment of States, Parties to the Regional Security System (RSS) to bring into force an RSS Treaty that would further integrate their forces and permit participating nations to assist one another by operating in each other's territory; and

- (ii) the continuing cooperation among Caribbean nations and with the nations of the European Union and others to strengthen regional security forces and invite a continued and co-ordinated role by the European nations in combined operations and assistance.

To this end:

8.1 Caribbean States, through the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Secretariat, will work towards the conclusion of regional agreements in specified areas of mutual interest, including extradition and mutual legal assistance in criminal matters;

8.2 we agree to work together to enhance maritime interdiction, through appropriate agreements and related assistance. In this regard, the United States undertakes to continue to provide assistance to the Caribbean States to strengthen operational capacities, and to seek legislative authority for an expanded effort;

8.3 Caribbean States will intensify training in maritime interdiction and develop training guides or manuals on boarding and searching vessels reasonably suspected of carrying illicit narcotic drugs or contraband;

8.4 Caribbean States and the United States will examine the efficiency of their Ships' Registries, and, in that regard, where necessary, Caribbean States will seek the assistance of the United States. Caribbean States and the United States shall also introduce more effective controls in monitoring the movement of vessels, pleasure craft and fishing vessels through the introduction of standard regional enforcement systems that build on existing customs clearance documents for arriving and departing vessels;

8.5 the United States pledges to co-operate with other donors and Caribbean States in the establishment of national and regional computerised databases on all vessels transiting the seas of the region and Caribbean States will share such information with the United States; and

8.6 the Joint Committee on Justice and Security is instructed to assess the feasibility of providing to Caribbean States, additional equipment and support for the Caribbean States in carrying out regional maritime law enforcement.

In respect of port control and security:

8.7 we agree to work with private carriers and businesses to encourage them to adopt security procedures and participate in programmes which deter illegal access to and use of their conveyances and cargo, their associated equipment, and company facilities located at ports and air terminals. These efforts would be aimed at strengthening the capabilities of those involved in the transnational movement of legitimate goods to deter smugglers from compromising their legitimate operations, improving port infrastructures through private sector involvement, and increasing co-operation between government officials and the business community; and

8.8 the United States pledges to work with Caribbean States to provide advice, technical assistance and training in -

- (a) maintaining secure factories;
- (b) developing adequate controls over packing and shipping processes; and
- (c) combating customs-related corruption

9. Alien Smuggling and Deportation of Criminals

Alien Smuggling

We recognise the right of each State to determine its own policies on immigration, consistent with international obligations such as the United Nations Convention on Refugees and understand that the ability of governments to permit legal immigration is eroded by illegal migration. The respective governments recognise the problems associated with the practice of smuggling migrants through the region.

We will co-operate to end this criminal practice and to bring the perpetrators to justice.

At the same time, it is important that in combating alien smuggling we should do nothing to undermine the established rights of legal immigrant communities in our countries.

To this end:

9.1 Caribbean States intend to consider the adoption of national legislation making migrant trafficking a criminal offence; and

9.2 we will encourage wider use of tamper-proof documents for the purpose of travel.

Deportation of Criminals

We recognise the right of each State to determine its policies on deportation subject to international law, and agree to:

9.3 provide adequate advance notice to designated authorities prior to a criminal's deportation;

9.4 provide appropriate information regarding the persons to be deported;

9.5 establish, prior to the deportation, that the deportee is a national of the receiving State;

9.6 hold consultations on other issues associated with deportation; and

9.7 work to improve arrangements by which the deportee has access to his or her assets located in the departing State.

We note that the United States intends to offer technical assistance in establishing parole and monitoring systems.

MONTEGO BAY DECLARATION

Positioning the Caribbean for the Twenty-First Century

We, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, assembled for the Eighteenth Meeting of our Conference, in Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 4 July 1997;

Recalling the historic gathering of fifty years ago in this city, when an earlier generation of West Indian leaders sought to prepare their countries for the new world, then emerging after the Second World War, with its prospect of decolonisation and freedom for all peoples;

Affirming that the vision of unity, which engendered the federal experience, CARIFTA and CARICOM, continues to underlie and inspire our objective for a deeper integration process;

Aware that fundamental changes in the global community since the 1947 Montego Bay Conference, have made the need for unity more compelling than ever before and that, to continue to secure our survival as a free people, we must act together to take advantage of opportunities and to overcome challenges;

Recognising that the momentum of globalisation demands even greater co-ordination and collaboration among small states, in the defence of our interests and the preservation of our independence;

Recognising also that our regional society currently faces grave threats including drug trafficking and its related activities and the increased frequency and greater intensity of natural disasters;

Concerned at the absence of appropriate measures by the multilateral financial institutions to relieve the burden of debt, the servicing of which retards the social and economic development of some of our member states;

Acknowledging the important role of culture in the thrust towards national and regional development in uniting our countries and in strengthening our identity as people of the Caribbean Community;

Convinced that the empowerment of all the peoples of our countries is of paramount importance to the advancement of our societies and in fulfillment of our regional objectives;

Conscious that such empowerment requires that priority attention be given to Human Resource development and human capital formation throughout our Region;

Noting that over the last 50 years the process of integration in our region has deepened and that institutions, such as the Assembly of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians, have been created allowing for greater dialogue and increased co-operation between our states at many levels;

Make this basic and unswerving commitment to the peoples of our respective countries and to our Region as a whole:

PRINCIPLES

1. We rededicate ourselves to the principles upon which the Treaty of Chaguaramas establishing the Caribbean Community in July 1973 was based, of consolidating and strengthening the bonds which have historically existed among our peoples; of sharing a common determination to fulfill the hopes and aspirations of our peoples for full employment and improved standards of work and living. We reiterate that these objectives can most rapidly be attained by the optimum utilisation of available human and natural resources of the Region.
2. We resolve to strengthen and deepen our regional integration movement by committing ourselves to taking decisions that we can honour and implement, and to establishing structures of national and regional consultation that will widen the decision-making process to involve the broadest cross-sections of our societies.
3. We reiterate our commitment to the democratic principles which are embedded in our societies; we declare our unswerving respect for the rights and responsibilities of our citizens, and we re-affirm the principles enshrined in the Charter of Civil Society signed in February 1997 in which we committed ourselves to create a truly participatory political environment within the Caribbean Community.
4. We reaffirm the integrity of our judicial system and pledge to maintain its independence by duly respecting and applying the constitutional principles governing it.

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

5. We shall work unceasingly to strengthen the capabilities of all our people through redesigned, modern and relevant programmes of education and training at all levels and for all age groups. The physically challenged and other disadvantaged groups will have a special place in these programmes.
6. We shall focus on programmes which will equip our people to acquire the competencies to function effectively in the emerging knowledge-based economy. This will include programmes which will emphasise the creation, application and dissemination of knowledge.
7. Our Governments are determined to ensure that the importance of science and technology and the advances in telecommunications become all-pervasive factors which must be effectively and appropriately utilised for the benefit of our peoples.
8. Our Governments will emphasise, through the education systems which should be geared to the achievement of excellence, the importance of:
 - creating the Caribbean person who will have among other attributes, the capacity to improve and maintain physical, mental, social and spiritual well-being;

- nurturing the fullest development of each person=s potential without regard to gender;
 - developing a culture of entrepreneurship;
 - the management and protection of the environment;
 - research and development as a way of life and means of improving production;
 - improving the competitiveness of those industries on which our economies are based.
9. We wish to mobilise for the betterment of our societies, the creative talents of all our people, wherever they may live in the world, and whatever their fields of endeavour, and provide for them an environment conducive to their participation in the Region's progress.
 10. Consistent with the Grand Anse Declaration of 1989, we continue to recognise the enduring value of the University of the West Indies (UWI) as a regional institution in the service of our development. We also recognise the contributions of tertiary institutions of our Member States.
 11. We commit ourselves to the implementation of the specific measures identified in the document **Towards Creative and Productive Citizens for the Twenty-first Century** approved by the Special Session of the Conference on *Education and Human Resource Development: Strategies for Building a Creative and Productive Workforce* during the Eighteenth Meeting of our Conference.

REGIONAL UNITY AND GLOBAL POSITIONING

12. We are committed to relieving the scourge of unemployment, and to reducing and eventually eliminating poverty throughout our Region. In this connection, the regional integration process must be seen as a collective instrument for the expanding and exploiting of opportunities for the fuller and more productive lives of our peoples.
13. We acknowledge the value of dialogue with our social partners and the contribution which they make to enhancing the development process in our individual countries and the Region as a whole.
14. In order to make regional unity a more effective tool for development and for building beneficial relations with other countries and groupings of countries, we agree that our states which are members of the Caribbean Common Market shall move speedily to complete the processes for creating a Single Market and Economy, of which the free movement of the factors of production and the harmonisation of monetary policies would be the most

important components. We are committed to taking the necessary steps to establish the main elements of the Single Market and Economy by 1999.

15. In most of the areas associated with the Single Market and Economy, significant progress has been demonstrated by the conclusion of Protocol II, amending the Treaty of Chaguaramas to include provisions for the rights of establishment, provision of services and movement of capital and by earlier agreements for the free movement of skills.
16. We are also resolved to widen our integration process to include other CARIFORUM countries, while we strengthen our linkages with partner countries in the Association of Caribbean States.
17. At the same time, we shall continue to pursue mutually beneficial trade, tourism and other development co-operation with countries of Latin America.
18. We continue to attach importance to our long-established relations with Canada and the USA and underscore our commitment to the Caribbean/USA Partnership for Prosperity and Security as well as the modality of the CARICOM/Canada Joint Trade and Economic Committee.
19. We are committed to expanding our trade and economic relations with our traditional partners in Europe through negotiations for post-Lomé IV arrangements between the European Union and the ACP Group of countries in just, enlightened and effective ways, and we are committed to doing so through strengthened solidarity with the other ACP countries.
20. We are, as well, eager to strengthen trade, economic investment and various other forms of co-operation with countries in Asia and Africa.
21. In the global economy that is evolving, we resolve to unite our best efforts to plan strategically to position our countries to take the fullest advantage of market niches, other global opportunities and sources of capital.
22. Accordingly, our Governments are fully committed to an open system of multilateral trade. In this connection, we shall make determined efforts to improve the international competitiveness of our economies, strengthening our traditional sectors of agriculture and mining where they exist while placing emphasis on the services sector, building on the competitive positions we have already established in service industries such as tourism, entertainment, off-shore finance, and information processing.
23. In relation to the foregoing, we will work assiduously to secure recognition of our economies as small, fragile and vulnerable, and will work with others in similar situations to ensure, in our economic relations, treatment as special cases requiring exceptions, transitional periods, waivers and other arrangements that are fair and reasonable.

CARIBBEAN CULTURAL IDENTITY

24. We pledge collectively and individually, to foster the further development of the cultural identity of our Caribbean sense of community, cultural identity and certitude and richer forms of self-knowledge.
25. We recognise that sports have contributed to the gaining of international respect for our countries and to promoting a sense of dignity and self-worth in our peoples. We shall continue to encourage the achievement of excellence in sports not only to enlarge the opportunities for individual success, but also to further enrich our Region=s standing in the global community and to enhance the dignity and pride of our peoples.
26. We further recognise that our sense of identity as a CARICOM family has also been and will continue to be greatly enhanced by the enduring linkages created through our University of the West Indies and pledge our unwavering support for its continued development to meet the diverse challenges of the new millennium.

DECLARATION

We, the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, declare our confidence in the creative capacity of the peoples of our Region, in their ability to adapt to changing circumstances, in their resourcefulness and in their fortitude.

We are convinced that as our peoples have uplifted themselves in the 20th Century from conditions of abject poverty to improving social and economic conditions, as they have risen from subjection to establish democratic governance in free societies, as they have responded to the challenges of the last fifty years, they will summon from within themselves the strength and creativity to succeed over the next fifty years and more.

Strengthened by this conviction, we face the 21st Century with the full expectation that, despite the odds, the Caribbean Community will thrive and prosper.

Montego Bay
Jamaica
4 July 1997

NASSAU DECLARATION ON HEALTH 2001

THE HEALTH OF THE REGION IS THE WEALTH OF THE REGION

We the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:

COGNIZANT of the critical role of health in the economic development of our people and overawed by the prospect that our current health problems, especially HIV/AIDS, may impede such development through the devastation of our human capital;

RECOGNIZING that the escalation of these health problems is evidence of the deficiencies of our approaches, thus requiring the re-orientating and restructuring of the Health Services;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the need to place emphasis on the access to services for vulnerable groups in our societies, particularly for behavioral change in the youth; and, the empowerment of women;

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that while the resources and absorptive capacity of no one single institution, country or nation are sufficient to reverse the negative trend, the evidence of 'best practices' and technological breakthroughs, the international, regional and national mechanisms and frameworks which exist; and, our experiences in successfully combating serious public health problems, such as poliomyelitis and measles and cholera provide hope of what can be achieved through a collective regional response;

CONVINCED of the need to strengthen the regional and national structures and institutions through which our approach must be articulated, elaborated and discharged;

COMMITTED to providing the requisite resources within our capabilities;

CONSONANT with the goals of the Caribbean Community to promote the improvement, well-being and security of our peoples, recognize that the health of the Region is the wealth of the Region:

HEREBY DECLARE:

ARTICLE I

We commit ourselves to the pursuit of initiatives and targets to be implemented to achieve an improved health status of our populations within the next five years, emphasizing leadership, strategic planning, management, implementation and resource mobilisation in the context of health sector reform processes that are underway.

ARTICLE II

Direction

We will build on current regional and sub-regional initiatives where necessary, but will seek to establish a series of networks, each with specific roles and responsibilities, in a co-ordinated regional structure responsive to the needs of the ordinary Caribbean citizen and designed to ensure equity in access to quality preventive and care regimes. We therefore envisage the following:

- regular consultations of the designated networks under the aegis of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD), to facilitate the regional coordinated efforts required to address cross-cutting issues at the heart of economic growth and equity such as poverty reduction, improving human resource capabilities, and equity in access and delivery of services; and with respect to intersectoral linkages with issues related to youth, gender, sports, illicit drugs and arms, and education and culture;
- the creation of a Caribbean Technical Regional Task Force on Health and Development within COHSOD to advocate, review and help to propel health to the centre of the development process and to draw on the body of research and development (R&D) that provides for evidenced based decision making at all levels.

ARTICLE III

Strategic Planning

We re-commit ourselves to the implementation of the Caribbean Co-operation in Health (CCH) Phase II as the framework under which all regional and sub-regional, national and institutional sector plans for health will be considered. Emphasis on the sharing of services and an integrated approach to managing health information and health planning and programming is an urgent need. Further we mandate that:

the Regional Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS be revised and expanded to ensure that the Pan-Caribbean Partnership benefits fully from the availability of regional and global funds by 1 December 2001, especially in the context of the general targets established by the United Nations Special Session on HIV/AIDS;

the Regional Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS include the OECS Pharmaceutical Purchasing Scheme (PPS) as the representative body of the OECS for procuring anti-retro virals.

a Regional Strategic Plan for the Prevention and Control of the Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases be developed and submitted for approval by March 2002;

a Regional Strategic Plan on Mental Health be developed by September 2002;

an evaluation of the current CCH II be conducted and a Draft of its successor be submitted by December 2002.

ARTICLE IV

Management, Implementation and Resource Mobilization

We shall ensure that the CCH II Secretariat, which is to be jointly administered by CARICOM and PAHO be made operational by:

placing reliance on the regional and sub-regional institutions to take the lead role on several issues and provide the services required by Member States and to that end these institutions will be reviewed to determine their adequacy, competitiveness and strategic advantages for the Region.

ensuring that the Pan-Caribbean Partnership on HIV/AIDS established in March 2001 provide a model with its primary mandate to mobilize resources for the implementation of the Regional Strategic Plan on HIV/AIDS. Thus far, this has been successful in building Donor confidence and generating financial support. We recommend the strengthening and expansion of the Pan-Caribbean Partnership to include other health priorities and promote donor support.

ARTICLE V

Pan-Caribbean Governance Issues

We recognize that the expansion of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) beyond its current membership is both desirable and inevitable, and further commit to:

enhanced areas related to the collective effort by all Caribbean countries for joint representation to exert a greater influence on decision making in the international arena which will favour the Region's interests.

ARTICLE VI

Development Issues

We recognize the primary importance of the Human Resource Development Strategy in both the short and longer term and therefore commit to fully supporting the approaches to:

promotion and prevention, as a responsibility, in relation to security of our assets;

treatment of those persons as an investment in the preservation of our human capital, a cost benefit strategy for sustaining productivity and services, and a human rights obligation.

ARTICLE VII

Institutional Strengthening and Sustainability

We the Heads of Government of the Community agree that the institutional strengthening of the CCH II Secretariat should be given highest priority, and recognize that the sustainability of our efforts will require attention to the involvement of civil society and the other specialized stakeholders. Accordingly, we are determined to lead the charge of the Caribbean in 'Fighting back' against HIV/AIDS and other health conditions, within the context of the articulated principles and processes to preserve and enhance 'The health of the Region which is the wealth of the Region'.

Nassau, The Bahamas
6 July 2001

CONCLUSION

A reading of the substantial documentation generated by the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community leads to certain inescapable conclusions. Firstly, the Heads of Government dealt boldly and efficiently with a variety of political, economic and social issues; secondly, these decisions taken by them have had a transformative effect; thirdly, decisions sometimes have not been implemented in the optimum; and, finally, these decisions became highly specialised as the international environment became more complex.

But the issue that stands out in stark relief against the background of the developments in the Community over the period covered by this publication is the absence of a political or executive authority to direct the necessary economic mechanisms which have come into being as a result of the globalised nature of international existence. At another level the question of the decision-making process of the Community in this new era is also a matter of substantive interest. The resolution of these challenges might well determine at what pace the Community will conduct its business in the 21st century. This is a time when decisions will have to be made quickly and implemented with firm authority. Consequently, political direction and an appropriate mechanism for the implementation of decisions will be a major if not decisive factor in the future development of the Community. The Leaders of the Community are aware of this situation.

The question of the political unity of the English speaking Caribbean is still a matter of ongoing interest. In this regard it is not without significance that as early as the Special Meeting of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries, the following conclusion was reached. “They (the Heads) acknowledged that the movement towards political unity was in the aid of the integration

programme, not in substitution for it, and they reiterated the commitment to the implementation of the programme on as wide a regional basis as possible.”⁴³

And in recent times, certainly the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mr. Owen Arthur, who has lead responsibility for the implementation of the CSME has posed the question as to whether the Community can undertake such an important economic task without the requisite political superstructure.

The decision-making procedures of the Community are clearly a matter of concern. It is a subject that is important by virtue of the fact that it is rarely mentioned. It was given some treatment at the 5th Summit at Nassau in July 1984. At the following 6th Summit in July 1985 in St. Phillip, Barbados, the Heads were bold enough to assert that a study must be done in consultation with the Member States of the Community with regard to “decision-making under the Treaty of Chaguaramas with a view to identifying areas of decision-making in the Community, in respect of which consideration could be given to the introduction of a voting procedure other than by unanimous vote.”

After this Declaration, this matter appeared to have been shelved but it made a rather dramatic re-entry to the stage of Community politics when the Heads met again at the 10th Inter-Sessional Meeting in March 1999 in Suriname. This problem was bluntly stated by the Heads in the following terms:

“Heads of Government had an initial exchange of views on the Community in the next decade....

In this discussion, it was generally acknowledged that central to the problem of Caribbean integration, was the fact that the method and structure of Governance

⁴³ Special Heads of Government Meeting 8 November 1971, Georgetown, Guyana. Press Release: Meeting Reviews Development relating to Declaration of Grenada

of the Community was inadequate for spearheading and guiding a regional integration movement.

Heads of Government recognised that at the heart of the problem was the absence of any central executive/decision-making authority, capable of acting on behalf of Member States within the limits of the Treaty.

Heads of Government agreed that the status quo was unsustainable and that action needed to be taken with despatch both of a tactical and strategic nature to respond to the current situation.”

The security of the Region is also a matter which is of critical importance to the future development of the Community. The vulnerability of the Region which has been dramatised by developments in the ‘70s, in Dominica, for example, and which was underscored in such telling terms in Grenada in the ‘80s has to be addressed. The documents under study reveal that the Leaders of the Community have not reached either consensus or agreement as to how its security will be ensured. There are glimpses as to what must be done. At Nassau in 1984, the Heads “observed that Small States were increasingly vulnerable to external aggression, manifested in traditional as well as in new forms of economic aggression, including the attempt of some States to impose extra-territorial jurisdiction.”⁴⁴ However, at subsequent meetings, including the Second Inter-Sessional Meeting in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, there was merely a reference to the fact that a Committee had been delegated “to review arrangements for a Regional Security Regime” which “was scheduled to be convened in Trinidad and Tobago on March 2.”⁴⁵ A Report was to have been presented to the 12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government but the Communiqué issued at the end of that meeting has no reference to the question of security. Maybe it would be best to conclude this matter with the following quotation from the 3rd Inter Sessional

⁴⁴ 5th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

⁴⁵ 2nd Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

Meeting when it was decided to endorse the “recommendations of the Ministerial Committee that the proposed regional security scheme should incorporate the existing Regional Security System of the Eastern Caribbean with links of other co-operation agreements with other Member States of the Caribbean Community.”⁴⁶

A third major consideration that emerges from a study of the documentation in question is the risk posed to the health of the peoples of the Caribbean Community by the HIV/AIDS phenomenon. The Heads, as the body of this publication reveals, dealt with this matter in its purely medical context. However, it is fast emerging that the United States is so concerned about this matter that it is in the process of imposing a form of a *cordon sanitaire*. It takes the form of a new policy of regarding the Caribbean as a fourth border. But Bill Clinton, the former President of the United States, recently indicated the extent of America’s concern with the Caribbean which now has the second highest rate of infection outside of Sub Saharan Africa. He said in a recent lecture that “the second fastest growing rates of AIDS is in the Caribbean on America’s front door.”⁴⁷

As has been evidenced in other parts of the world, the growth of this disease can have catastrophic economic consequences. This has been so in parts of Sub Saharan Africa where AIDS has decimated as much as forty per cent of the workforce. The Caribbean therefore has to take the requisite decisions; not only to mitigate the effects of this disease, but also to prevent the growing perception in Washington that it is a region of threat as far as this problem is concerned.

The creation of the Caribbean Single Market and Economy (CSME) is now a major pre-occupation of the Caribbean Community. The documentation however reveals that the deadline for its final implementation continues to be extended. At Grand Anse it was to be created in “the

⁴⁶ 3rd Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community , 19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

⁴⁷ Bill Clinton: The Struggle for the Soul of the 21st Century: BBC 2000 Lecture Series

shortest possible time”. More than a decade later, the Community finds itself making determined efforts to make the CSME a reality so that it can be in a position of some strength in relation to the FTAA which comes into force in 2005 and the other vital global economic negotiations which are concurrently taking place.

If the foregoing appears to be a criticism of the leadership of the Community, it is counter balanced by a number of positive developments. If the resilience of the institution is measured by its capacity to overcome challenges and difficulties and reshape its destiny, then the Caribbean Community must be credited with an extraordinary competence to manage its affairs thoughtfully and effectively; for it emerged from the crisis of the ‘80s and the imperatives challenged with its effective philosophy and will to survive intact. The Leaders of the Community have not flinched from taking the difficult decisions but the question is to implement them. This much is clear.

The factors making for greater integration have increased. The Leaders of the Community have grappled with this issue in various ways with varying degrees of success. But now modern telecommunications and technology can obviate the need for frequency of contact in actual terms and have made it possible for the Community to raise the level of interaction and deepen cultural awareness and unity. The argument that distance and poor transportation mechanisms are inhibitive of meaningful integration can no longer stand. It is clear from the documentation that Caribbean Leaders have begun to recognise this and are keen to put technology at the service of Caribbean integration.

As the new Century reveals itself in broadest outline, hinting at its technological health, the Community Leaders have begun to understand, as do their counterparts around the world, that the productive forces in the Community could be dramatically transformed and increased by technology. It has emerged that this is clearly understood. What is clearly appreciated too is that

the inter-relationship between the environment, education and productive wealth is a central tenet of all economic thinking. Quality Human Resources is the order of the day. This is to the advantage of the Community. The Region's sons and daughters have always done it honour in the domain of the intellect and in situations where thinking is a prime asset. A healthy, well-educated and confident population should make a major difference in the search for unity and prosperity.

The modern business culture is an outgrowth of the culture of globalisation. The Caribbean Community too has understood this. There have therefore been demands and action that the classical and traditional curriculum must yield to the disciplines that foster business sense and entrepreneurship.

Caribbean Leaders are nothing if not realistic. And these documents show in no uncertain terms that they realise that the quest for a prosperous Community will not be without its difficulties. They have understood that poverty, under-development, and the likely disruption of the negative aspects of globalisation on traditional Caribbean society will have to be mitigated and dealt with in a fashion which will not undermine the capacity of the Community to create wealth and become an important member of the Sub-Region. They have recognised that unspecified danger is inherent in the continued growth of drug trafficking and the attendant phenomenon of crime and behaviour which are not consistent with a healthy and productive society. Most of all, even though they have not elaborated with any clarity the requisite plans and programmes, they have understood that security must precede development.

It would be foolhardy to say whether they have succeeded or they have failed. It is too early to say. The journey is not yet complete. What is certain is that they have laid the foundation, analytically and otherwise, not only for the Community to renew itself but to realise the objective, as expressed in the Georgetown Accord of 1973 of fulfilling "within the shortest possible time the

hopes and aspirations of the people of the Caribbean territories for industrial and agricultural development, full employment and improved living standards.”

At the bottom of all of the activities undertaken by the Community is the question of financing from local resources or a judicious mix of them and external financing to ensure the long term viability of the Community. It is interesting to note that this matter is not given the comprehensive treatment expected but is dealt with in a relatively substantive way only at the 5th Inter Sessional Meeting in 1994.⁴⁸ At that meeting the Heads received a report on a symposium on Financing the New Caribbean which was held in Jamaica in 1994. A working group was established “to develop policies and measures for increasing private investment in the Region, in areas such as the promotion of domestic private savings, the accelerated development of regional capital markets and increased access to foreign markets”.

This is an important matter that goes to the very heart of the integration process itself. Any further and lasting dependence on external financing will undermine the fine work done by the Leaders over the past twenty-eight years and in the long run undermine the confidence of the people of the Region and the Community as an institution. Whatever the hard decisions that will have to be taken, and they must be taken, the Community must be in a position to protect its integrity and ensure that its activities do not become an area of pressure from any source, external to the Region, for whatever reason. Sovereignty must have content and be substantive.

⁴⁸ 5th Inter Sessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, 11th – 12th March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

The conditions have been set. The decisions have been taken. The wise implementation of these decisions covering the Political, Economic and Cultural interests of the Community could well determine what will be the nature of its passage through the 21st Century.

REFERENCES

ACP (After 1973)

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
8-10 December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

8th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
20-21 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Association of Caribbean States

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

7th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
20-21 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua and Barbuda

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June - 4 July 1997 Montego Bay, Jamaica

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June - 4 July 1998 Castries, St. Lucia

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001 Nassau, The Bahamas

Agriculture

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Air Transportation

Special Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
26 June 1971, Vieux Fort, Saint Lucia, and 9 November 1971, Georgetown, Guyana

First Special Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
26-27 January 1974, Bridgetown, Barbados

1st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15-18 July 1974, Castries, Saint Lucia

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29 June –3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua & Barbuda

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

3rd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community
19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

9th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2-3 March 1998, St. George's, Grenada

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

7th Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
26-27 October 1999, Chaguaramas, Trinidad & Tobago

Bananas

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua.

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

5th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
11-13 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Belize/Guatemala

5th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
3 February 1969, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
8-10 December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent & the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize Dominica

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

12th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Caribbean Court of Justice

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June – 4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts and Nevis

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001 Nassau, The Bahamas

CARICOM / International Organisations

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

5th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
11-12 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent & the Grenadines

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize Dominica

7th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
29 February – 1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
20-21 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda

11th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis

CARICOM / Latin America

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-12 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

1st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 July 1974, Castries, Saint Lucia

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
8-10 December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
29 February – 1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
20-21 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

CARICOM / UK Relations

2nd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
13-17 January 1964, Kingston, Jamaica;

3rd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
8-10 March 1965, Georgetown, British Guiana

4th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
23-27 October 1967, Bridgetown, Barbados;

6th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
13-18 April 1970, Kingston, Jamaica

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad;

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

CARICOM / US Relations

4th Meeting of the Conference of the Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

2nd Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
28-31 October 1992, Trinidad & Tobago

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
29 February – 1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

5th Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
16 December 1996, Bridgetown, Barbados

8th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
20-21 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis

12th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Common External Tariff

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

CARICOM Multilateral Clearing Facility (CMCF)

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillips, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

Cricket

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June- 4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Debt

7th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-14 October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

8th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
16-17 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua

Decision Making

5th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

Democracy

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June – 3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

5th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
11-12 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Double Taxation

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001 Nassau, The Bahamas

Environment

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June – 3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

5th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
11-12 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

Free Movement of People

7th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
9-14 October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad & Tobago

1st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 July 1974, Castries, Saint Lucia

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

3rd Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize Dominica

7th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
29 February – 1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

Guyana/Venezuela

5th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
3 February 1969, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent & the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize Dominica

10th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

11th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community, 13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis

12th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community, 14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Immigration

2nd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
13-17 January 1964, Kingston, Jamaica;

3rd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
8-10 March 1965, Georgetown, British Guiana

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
8-10 December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
9-12 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

Monetary Union

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community:
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

Natural Disaster

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

2nd Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community:
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:

29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:

3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

Regional Security Issues

4th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries

23-27 October 1967, Bridgetown, Barbados

8th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries

9-13 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community

1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community

4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

2-6 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

3rd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Single Market and Economy

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

3rd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community 16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

8th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

16-17 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua & Barbuda

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

9th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

2-3 March 1998, St. George's, Grenada

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, Saint Lucia

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis

12th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Structural Adjustment

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

Territorial Integrity

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, St. Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community

31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

19th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
30 June-4 July 1998, Castries, St. Lucia

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent

4th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

6th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
16-17 February 1994, Belize City, Belize

10th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

11th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Lucia

12th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados

Tourism

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua and Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-7 July 1989, Grande Anse, Grenada

13th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 June-2 July 1992, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

4th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
22-23 March 1993, Roseau, Dominica

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

5th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
11-12 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

7th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community:
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas

Trade

2nd Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
13-17 January 1964, Kingston, Jamaica

4th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
23-27 October 1967, Bridgetown, Barbados

5th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
3 February 1969, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

7th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-14 October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago

8th Conference of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-12 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29 June-3 July 1987. Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

3rd Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

14th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
5-8 July 1993, Nassau, The Bahamas

5th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
11-12 March 1994, Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

7th Intersessional Meeting of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
29 February-1 March 1996, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

8th Intersessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
16-17 February 1997, St. John's, Antigua

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

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2nd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
13-17 January 1964, Kingston, Jamaica

3rd Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
8-10 March 1965, Georgetown, British Guiana

4th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
23-27 October 1967, Bridgetown, Barbados

5th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
3 February 1969, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

6th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
13-18 April 1970, Kingston, Jamaica

7th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-14 October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago

8th Meeting of the Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries
9-12 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

1st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
15-18 July 1974, Castries, Saint Lucia

2nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
8-10 December 1975, Basseterre, St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla

4th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
4-8 July 1983, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

6th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
1-4 July 1985, St. Phillip, Barbados

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
31 July-2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

3rd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
19 February 1992, Kingston, Jamaica

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

6th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
16-17 February 1995, Belize City, Belize

16th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
4-7 July 1995, Georgetown, Guyana

17th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community
3-6 July 1996, St. Michael, Barbados

Widening the Community

7th Meeting of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
9-14 October 1972, Chaguaramas, Trinidad & Tobago

8th Meeting of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries,
9-12 April 1973, Georgetown, Guyana

1st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 July 1974, Castries, Saint Lucia

3rd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
15-18 November 1982, Ocho Rios, Jamaica

5th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1984, Nassau, The Bahamas

7th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
1-4 July 1986, Georgetown, Guyana

8th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
29 June-3 July 1987, Castries, Saint Lucia

9th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-8 July 1988, Deep Bay, Antigua & Barbuda

10th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-7 July 1989, Grand Anse, Grenada

11th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
31 July – 2 August 1990, Kingston, Jamaica

12th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-4 July 1991, Basseterre, St. Kitts

15th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1994, Bridgetown, Barbados

18th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
30 June-4 July 1997, Montego Bay, Jamaica

10th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
4-5 March 1999, Paramaribo, Suriname

20th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
4-7 July 1999, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad & Tobago

11th Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
13-14 March 2000, Basseterre, St. Kitts

21st Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
2-5 July 2000, Canouan, St. Vincent and the Grenadines

22nd Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community,
3-6 July 2001, Nassau, The Bahamas.

2nd Interessional Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean
Community,
26 February 1991, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad.

WTO

12th Interessional Meeting of Heads of Government of Caribbean Community
14-16 February 2001, Bridgetown, Barbados