



Annual Report of the Secretary-General 2007





Mission Statement of the CARICOM Secretariat

**To provide dynamic leadership and service,
in partnership with Community institutions and groups,
toward the attainment of a viable, internationally competitive
and sustainable Community,
with improved quality of life for all.”**

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Office of the Secretary-General
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July 2008

TO: The Conference of Heads of Government

It gives me great pleasure to submit herewith a Report of the work of the Community for the period January to December 2007, in accordance with Article 23 paragraph 3 of the Revised Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Edwin W. Carrington'.

EDWIN W. CARRINGTON
SECRETARY-GENERAL

I Secretary-General's Overview

2007 A COMMUNITY FOR ALL

The year under review gave the citizens of the Caribbean Community a foretaste of some aspects of life in a fully integrated community.

These glimpses came with the staging of the International Cricket Council Cricket World Cup 2007 in the Caribbean and during the Conference on the Caribbean held in Washington DC, USA.



*His Excellency Edwin Carrington
Secretary-General*



CARICOM Heads of Government with President George W. Bush at the US State Department during the Conference on the Caribbean in Washington DC. The meeting with President Bush was the high point of the Conference of the Caribbean.

In many respects 2007 could prove in retrospect to be the spigot that opened the floodgates for a truly broad embrace of regionalism for a new generation of Caribbean people. It was the year that also produced the Declaration of Needham's Point with the title "A Community for All" signalling a shift in emphasis with respect to functional co-operation and the approval of the Single Development Vision as laid out by a team led by Professor Norman Girvan.

Either in and of themselves or as a group, these events provided tangible proof that regional integration is both much desired and eminently possible.



Cricket World Cup 2007

There can be little doubt that the historic Single Domestic Space (SDS) inaugurated on 2 February 2007 for the duration of the Cricket World Cup was for the population of the Caribbean Community the realisation of a dream.

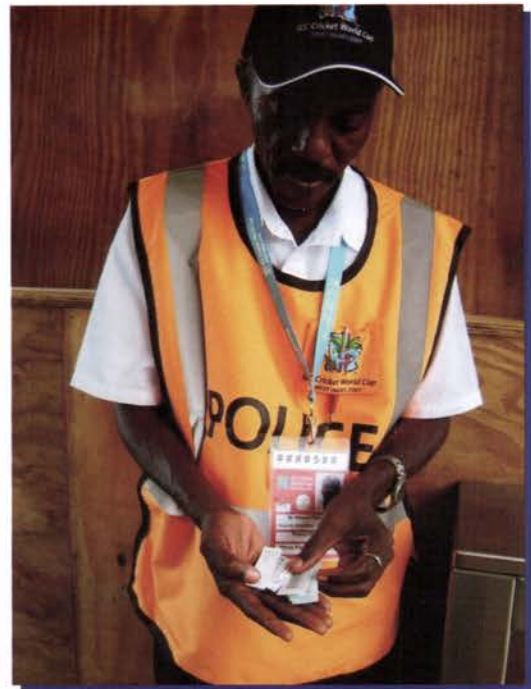
The SDS was established among 10 states, the nine countries which were venues for the games, (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St Kitts/Nevis, Saint Lucia, St Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago) and Dominica. It accorded complete freedom of movement within its borders to CARICOM citizens, fulfilling the spirit of one of the basic objectives of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) as set out in Article 45 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas which states: **“Member States commit themselves to the goal of free movement of their nationals within the Community.”**



A CARICOM Special Visa was designed for nationals from outside of the Region to allow them freedom of movement within the Single Domestic Space. This was one of the areas of unprecedented collaboration among Member States for the event which was particularly strong in the areas of security and intelligence-sharing.

The latter form of collaboration is one of the legacies of CWC 2007 and includes some measures that were put in place for the Single Domestic Space including the Advanced Passenger Information System (APIS). Heads of Government agreed that some of these measures, though they may need to be refined, should be kept in place.

In that context they agreed in principle to the creation of a Virtual Single Domestic Space facilitated through a voluntary regime of a CARICOM Travel Card with facial and finger print biometrics. This Travel Card will allow CARICOM Nationals and Nationals of Third Countries legally resident within the participating Member States, expedited passage through airports in participating States without having to be subjected to passport examination.



*Ensuring maximum security at Cricket World Cup 2007
(Photo courtesy of ICC/CWC West Indies, 2007)*

Functional Co-operation

In the continuing process of re-evaluating the best means of ensuring the involvement of all in the regional integration process, the Community's leaders recognised that the medium of functional co-operation, one of the three pillars of the integration movement, was best suited to this task. In issuing The Declaration of Needham's Point, Barbados at their 28th Meeting, the Heads of Government declared their **“determination to make functional co-operation a priority within the Community as one of the principal means by which the benefits of the integration movement are distributed through the length and breadth of the Community, including its Associate Members.”**

A Task Force on Functional Co-operation established by the Leaders in 2006 has been working to organise how this is to be achieved and had by the end of the year under review submitted a draft report to the Secretariat.

The Heads of Government had also asked for a comprehensive review of regional institutions with a view to rationalising their functions, funding and

structures in order to improve common services and coordination of national policies and programmes within the Community. In furtherance of this, the CARICOM Secretariat convened a meeting of Regional Institutions at its Georgetown, Guyana headquarters in October. The meeting provided an opportunity for the institutions to begin the task of achieving greater collaboration and cooperation; avoiding duplication of effort and utilizing increasingly scarce resources, to the maximum benefit of the Community.



Secretary-General H. E. Edwin Carrington escorts Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados into the CARICOM Secretariat following the Twelfth Special Meeting of the Conference on Heads of Government held in Georgetown, Guyana. At the Secretariat, the Prime Minister Arthur Commissioned the elevator in the presence of other Heads of Government, dignitaries and staff members.

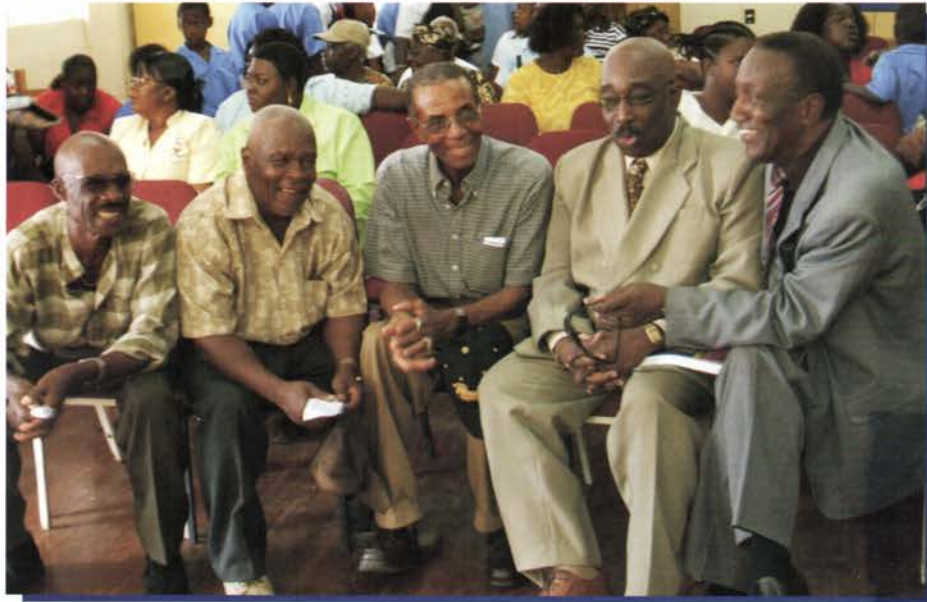
CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME)

The foundation pillars to ensure a solid edifice for the CSME continued to be constructed. The launch of the Caribbean Vocational Qualification (CVQ) in Kingston, Jamaica in October was a major step towards the certification of artisans, one of the newest categories approved for free movement of skills.

This two-pronged mechanism allows for both students graduating from the technical and vocational institutes and already practising tradespersons to be certified as practitioners of their trade.

With respect to the free movement of people, it was expected that by the end of the year 13 of the 15 Member States would have been issuing CARICOM Passports. It was also agreed that CARICOM nationals would be eligible upon entry for a stay of six months in another Member State.

As the year came to a close, the finishing touches were being put on the inauguration ceremony of a major institution in the regulation of the Single Market - the Competition Commission. This body will be inaugurated on 18 January in Paramaribo, Suriname where it will have its headquarters. This Commission has been established to promote competition and protect consumers through the prohibition of anti-competitive practices in the Single Market.



Secretary-General H. E. Edwin Carrington engages the attention of these gentlemen in Tobago in October 2007

Even as the Commission is coming on stream, technical work continued towards the beginning of the operation of the CARICOM Development Fund and the Regional Development Agency. It is expected that they would both be in operation in 2008.

With the adoption of the Single Development Vision by the Heads of Government during their July meeting in Barbados, work has also begun on the Strategic Plan for Regional Development. The vision laid out the route to achieving the Single Economy by 2015.

Work was completed on the draft of two of the Instruments critical to the functioning of the Single Economy. These were the CARICOM Financial Services Agreement and the CARICOM Investment Code.

There was little progress in respect of the Caribbean Business Council which is expected to be the mechanism for unified private sector voice when its operations begin. Such a body is critical to the development and sustained operations of the Single Market and Economy, representing as it is intended to, the main engineers of growth and principal beneficiaries of the expanded domestic market.

Attention was also given to a key sector of the

economy with the staging of an Agriculture Donor Conference in Trinidad and Tobago in June. Arising out of this Conference, there will be an agriculture investment conference in 2008 at which specific opportunities will be presented to likely investors.

The Heads of Government also met in Special Session in December to examine the options available in the face of the rising cost of living, in particular food prices, and its implication for Poverty levels in the Region. Following the meeting held in Guyana, the Common External Tariff (CET) was identified as one mechanism which could be used regionally to assist in lowering prices.

Member States were expected to provide the Council for Trade and Economic Development with a list of goods that attracted CET and could affect the cost of living significantly, so that a decision could be taken with regard to the level of the tariff.

During the year Haiti took an important step in respect of its inclusion in the Single Market and Economy by ratifying the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas. It remains only for the parliamentary action to be published in the Monitor for it to take effect.

The Community also gave its firmest signal yet that Haiti was back in the fold with the re-opening of the CARICOM Representational Office in Port-au-Prince in October. This was made possible with the assistance of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). The office, headed by an experienced diplomat Ambassador Earl Huntley of Saint Lucia is working closely with Haiti's Bureau de Suivi to facilitate Haiti's integration into the Single Market and Economy.

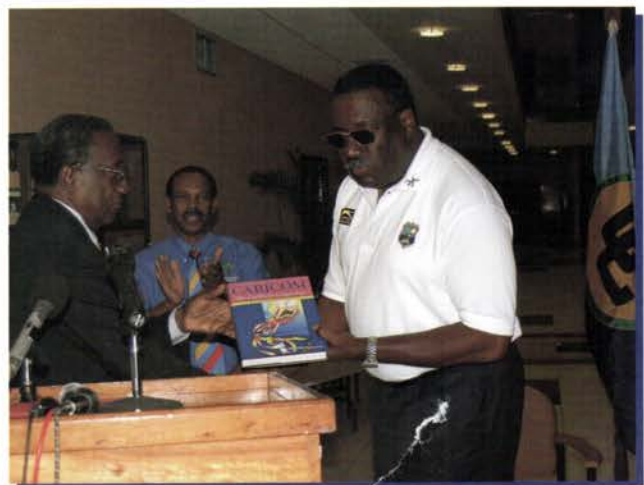


Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community at a press conference to mark the end of the Twelfth Special Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government at the Guyana International Conference Centre in December 2007. The Meeting addressed the pending Economic Partnership Agreement between CARIFORUM and the European Union as well as Poverty and the Rising Cost of Living. From left are: Hon. Bruce Golding, Prime Minister of Jamaica; H.E. Bharrat Jagdeo, President of Guyana; Rt. Hon. Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados; Dr. the Hon. Keith Mitchell, Prime Minister of Grenada, H.E. Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General, CARICOM; Hon. Patrick Manning, Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Health was the focus of a Special Summit held in Trinidad and Tobago in September on Chronic Non-Communicable Diseases. The discussions there resulted in the *Declaration of Port-of-Spain* entitled "Uniting to Stop the Epidemic of Non-Communicable Diseases." It was agreed at that meeting that the second Saturday in September of each year be declared Caribbean Wellness Day in commemoration of the Summit.

Among the programmes put forward to improve the health of the Region were: the re-introduction of physical education in schools; the promotion of physical activity in the entire population along with the provision of facilities to encourage the practice; and comprehensive public education programmes on wellness and healthy life styles.



Secretary-General H.E. Edwin Carrington presents a CARICOM publication to Mr. Clive Lloyd shortly after the cricket legend was conferred with the title 'Champion for Change' in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV/AIDS (PANCAP) accelerated its drive to reduce the incidence of the disease through collaborative efforts including with the CARICOM Youth Ambassadors Programme (CYAP).

Pictured right: H.E. Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite, CARICOM Deputy Secretary-General pins a brooch on the lapel of outgoing CXC Registrar, Dr. Lucy Steward at the Sixteenth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development in Georgetown.



Pictured left: H.E. Edwin Carrington, CARICOM Secretary-General and Dirk Currie, CEO, Telesur Communications, Suriname, affix their signatures to the Cooperation Agreement on Youth Development between Telesur and the CARICOM Secretariat. Standing is Mr. Sherwin Bridgewater of the Human and Social Development Directorate, CARICOM Secretariat. The signing took place at the Sixteenth Meeting of the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) at Le Meridien Pegasus, Georgetown, Guyana.

A boost to the involvement of youth in Community issues came through a Technical Co-operation Agreement between the CARICOM Secretariat and Telesur, Suriname's telecommunications service provider.

This Agreement allows for the development of high impact Information and Communication Technology (ICT) projects to engage Caribbean Youth in activities that will promote the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME); the fight against HIV and AIDS and reduce gang and gun violence.

In March, the CARICOM Commission on Youth Development was launched in Suriname. The Commission, with Professor Barry Chevannes and

Ms Yldiz Beighle as co-chairs was established by Heads of Government at their Regular Meeting in July 2006 at St Kitts/Nevis to address the challenges confronting the young people of the Community. The Commission will conduct working sessions throughout the Member States and Associate Members to fashion a response to these challenges.

The 200th Anniversary of the Abolition of the Transatlantic Slave Trade was observed in 2007 and a number of events were staged throughout the Community to commemorate this landmark in our history. The prime Community event was a synchronised minute of silence on 25 March, the anniversary date of the abolition.

GOVERNANCE



Secretary-General H.E. Edwin Carrington escorts Rt. Hon Owen Arthur, Prime Minister of Barbados and Hon. Bruce Golding Prime Minister of Jamaica into the CARICOM Secretariat following the Twelfth Special Meeting of the Conference on Heads of Government held in Georgetown, Guyana.

The Heads of Government received and accepted the Report of the Technical Working Group on Governance (TWG) led by Professor Vaughan Lewis and established a small committee headed by the Prime Minister of Barbados, to refine the decisions and advance implementation of the recommendations of the TWG.

There was also agreement on the re-establishment of the Inter-Governmental Task Force, to work in collaboration with the Legal Affairs Committee and a Sub-Committee of the TWG to recommend the requisite amendments to the Revised Treaty based on the Report.

Another amendment which was recommended by Heads of Government would allow for the recognition of Security as the fourth pillar of the Community, given its ever-increasing importance and its cross-cutting and fundamental nature.

CLIMATE CHANGE

The critical issue of Climate Change and its effects on small island and low-lying coastal communities such as those in the Region engaged the attention of the Community during the year with the main attention focused on the United Nations (UN) Climate Change Conference 2007 in Bali, Indonesia in December.

CARICOM Member States highlighted the importance of the establishment and implementation of an Adaptation Fund to assist developing countries to build resilience and adaptive capacity.

The Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) sponsored a Side Event on 'Capacity Building for Climate Change Adaptation - Caribbean Experience' at the Conference which not only demonstrated the impacts of Climate Change on the

Caribbean but, more importantly, highlighted the coping mechanisms the Region has been developing to address climate change.

Earlier in the year, in August, a High Level Seminar on Expanding Bio-Energy Opportunities in the Caribbean was convened in Guyana in the context of its role in mitigating the effects of climate change and of rising energy costs.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Three of the Region's traditional international partners were at the centre of activity in the area of external relations in the past year.

In June, the historic Conference on the Caribbean took place in Washington DC, USA during Caribbean American Heritage month. It was a major engagement between the Community and the Government of the United States and the Caribbean Diaspora in the US. Heads of Government met with United States President George Bush and several Congressional Committees while the Community's Foreign Ministers met with US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

The leaders also participated in lively sessions with the Diaspora and met with officials of the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank and the Organisation of American States (OAS). The success of the Conference encouraged plans to stage another encounter, this time, in New York in 2008.

This plan received a boost with a dialogue between Congressman Charles Rangel, who attended the Meeting of Conference in Barbados last July as a Special Guest, and the Heads of Government.

Less than two weeks after the July meeting CARICOM leaders held informal discussions with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper in Barbados. During his visit, Prime Minister Harper announced a ten-year \$600 million (CAN) aid programme to assist the Region in its development goals. The leaders also discussed plans for a summit in the new year.

A new era in relations with Europe will begin in 2008 with the conclusion of the negotiations for an Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with that Region. The EPA was initialled in December and has been undergoing legal checks before signing in 2008.



Participants admire a painting at the 'Celebration of Caribbean Art' exhibition to mark the Conference on the Caribbean at the OAS Headquarters, Washington DC.



H.E. Rene Preval, President of Haiti and Dr. The Hon. Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, confer during the Conference of the Caribbean.



Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, the Hon. Patrick Manning greets Mr. Willys Ramirez Diaz, new Assistant Secretary-General, CARIFORUM



Secretary-General H.E. Edwin Carrington extends a warm welcome to Mr. Willys Ramirez Diaz, *new Assistant Secretary-General, CARIFORUM*

In preparation for this new era, arrangements for the integration of the Secretariat of CARIFORUM into the CARICOM Secretariat were completed and the merger was effected in August. Mr Willys Ramirez Diaz, a national of the Dominican Republic assumed duty as Assistant Secretary-General for CARIFORUM.

In November, the Heads of Government had an opportunity to meet for the first time with the new Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, the Honourable Gordon Brown. The discussions took place during the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Kampala, Uganda and CARICOM leaders put their concerns about the EPA to the UK Prime Minister.

Closer to home, leaders of CARICOM and the Central American Integration System (SICA) met in May in Belize and agreed to a Plan of Action including diverse areas of cooperation such as: Human Development, Health, Housing, Poverty Eradication, Environment and Disaster Mitigation, Foreign Policy Coordination, Foreign Trade and Investment, Crime and Security, the Fight Against Corruption, Air Transportation and Tourism, and Cultural Exchanges.

The Secretaries-General of CARICOM and the OAS led their delegations to a meeting of the two Secretariats held in March. This Meeting strengthened co-operation between the organisations and helped to finalise the assistance provided by the OAS to the Community in relation to the Conference on the Caribbean which was held in Washington DC later in the year.

Regionally, the Second Meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs of CARICOM and Cuba was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in May. Emanating from that meeting was a crucial statement on terrorism which, among other things, affirmed the importance of international cooperation, in conformity with international law.

The Community also participated in the African Union-African Diaspora Conference which initiated dialogue on common challenges and helped to develop a common agenda. It also served to deepen linkages between Africa and the African Diaspora, strengthen partnerships and to identify new opportunities and mechanisms for building stronger political, social, cultural and economic relations between Africa and the Diaspora.

TRANSITION

The past year saw the Conference of Heads of Government welcome two new members and welcome back two who were there before. The Rt Honourable Hubert Ingraham of The Bahamas and the Hon Ralph O'Neal of the British Virgin Islands returned to the Conference after recapturing the

confidence of their voters, while the Honourable Bruce Golding assumed office as Prime Minister of Jamaica for the first time, following victory at the polls.

The Honourable Stephenson King was sworn in as Prime Minister of Saint Lucia following the death of the Honourable Sir John Compton, OCC.

Sir John was a committed regionalist who worked tirelessly towards the goal of Regional integration of both the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and of the Caribbean Community. In 2003, he was awarded the Order of the Caribbean Community (OCC), the highest honour of CARICOM, for his exemplary contribution to the regional integration process.

The same year that Sir John received the OCC, the award was also bestowed on the Honourable Lloyd Best, OCC, the Trinidadian-born intellectual who as fate would have it also passed away last year. As I stated in my tribute to this great Caribbean mind: "the force of Lloyd Best's ideas are best gauged by the passion with which he advocated "Independent thought and Caribbean freedom". That passion has inspired many and has influenced political and economic discourse for over four decades."

Among the other regional stalwarts who died in 2007 were two of the region's finest diplomats Angela King of Jamaica who rose to be a United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, and the Honourable Oliver Jackman of Barbados.

Jamaica and the Region suffered a great loss with the passing of Herb McKenley, the Jamaican track and field star of the forties and fifties, whose administrative work helped lay the foundation for the sustained high level performances of Jamaican athletes.

During the year, four serving members of staff also passed on. Ms. Yvonne Holder, Technical Co-ordinator of the Technical Action Services Unit (TASU) died suddenly on duty in Suriname, while Ms. Hazel Jeffrey of the Registry, Mr Malcolm Lloyd, a long-serving driver and Ms Dihonne Henry, an office assistant all died after varying periods of illness.

2008

As we look to the coming year, the completion of the framework for the Single Economy will be very much in focus as the Community continues to build a solid structure for the Single Market and Economy which will ensure that its benefits will be equitably distributed among the Member States. The greater emphasis on functional co-operation will no doubt be of great benefit in the battle for equity in the Community's drive towards viability and prosperity.

Among the major events of 2008 will be CARIFESTA X which will be staged in Guyana, venue of the first festival in 1972. The Logo was unveiled in October and the theme song has already been chosen, indications of the eagerness of the host country to stage a memorable event.

Even as the signing of the EPA is imminent, the Community's leaders are expected to take part in the European Union, Latin America and Caribbean (EU/LAC) Summit scheduled for Peru and to meet with their Spanish counterpart in the Fifth CARICOM-Spain Summit at Zaragoza during the World Exposition under the theme *Water and Sustainable Development*.

There is little doubt that as we face the challenges of the ever evolving World Order, the urgent necessity is for our Region to strengthen and advance its integration process, keeping at the forefront at all times the invocation that we seek to build *A Community For All*.





Secretary-General H.E. Edwin Carrington with United States President George W. Bush at the US State Department during the Conference on the Caribbean in Washington DC, June 2007.



II Trade and Economic Integration



Secretary-General, H.E. Edwin Carrington and Assistant Secretary-General Trade and Economic Integration, H.E. Irwin LaRocque confer with Assistant General Counsel, Mr. Neville Bissember and Programme Manager, External Economic and Trade Relations, Mr. David Hales at the 12th Special Meeting of Heads of Government of CARICOM

Developing and advancing the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) Legal and Institutional Framework for the regulation of Competition within the CSME were among the major achievements of the Trade and Economic Integration (TEI) Directorate during 2007. In this regard, the Directorate played a key role in the preparations for the establishment of the Caribbean Community Competition Commission.

Development and Operation of the Single Market and Economy

Under the sub-programme 'Development and Operation of the Single Market and Economy', the CARICOM Secretariat continued the improvement and rationalisation of procedures for free movement of wage earners and non-wage earners.

In this regard, the Secretariat discussed and refined

with Free Movement and Immigration Officials draft regulations/administrative rules for CARICOM nationals who are moving as non-wage earners who are temporary services providers or for the purpose of establishing a business. The regulations and administrative rules were submitted and received approval from the Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) and COTED. Proposals – including definition and arrangements - were also completed for Nurses and Teachers who are non-University graduates and who had been added to the list of CARICOM nationals who have the right to free movement without the need for a work permit.

In the year under review, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to Montserrat towards the preparation of its case for an Instrument of Entrustment from the United Kingdom to enable that Member State to ratify the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas and thereby participate in the CSME.



In the area of Agricultural Development, the Secretariat completed Phase 1 of the Regional Special Programme for Food Security and initiated the project concept and formulation for Phase 11 of the Project, using funds pledged by the Government of Italy and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

Caribbean Community Competition Commission

The Caribbean Community Competition Commission, scheduled to be inaugurated in January 2008, under Article 171 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas would be responsible for enforcement of the Community Rules of Competition which in the main prohibit agreements, decisions, and concerted parties whose objective or effect is to frustrate competition and abuse a dominant position in the market.



A key Institution in support of the CSME, the Commission's main functions within the CSME are to apply the rules of competition, promote and protect competition, co-ordinate the implementation of Competition Policy, monitor anti-competitive business conduct, promote establishment of national Competition Institutions and harmonisation of Competition Law as well as to advise the Council for Trade and Economic Development on Competition and Consumer Protection policies.

In the year under review, the Directorate assisted the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) to complete sub-regional agreements and uniform legislation to operate the OECS Sub-regional Competition Authority and provided technical assistance to Belize to complete its National Competition law. It developed the terms and conditions for appointment of Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Competition Commissioners, assisted the Regional Judiciary and Legal Service Commission (RJLSC) to complete the recruitment of seven Commissioners for the unit, and

developed the Programme of Activities leading to the inauguration of the Commissioners.

The CARICOM Secretariat also prepared the Terms of Reference for the completion of model competition regulations, rules of procedures for the operation of the Commission and for implementing a training programme in competition policy and competition law.

In addition, the Secretariat informed and educated CARICOM nationals on the implementation progress, opportunities, and challenges relating to the establishment and operation of the CSME. Specifically, the directorate organised and executed National in-country outreach missions in 13 CARICOM Member States. Those missions distributed messages on Competition policy, competition law, administrative reform and general developments in the CSME to a variety of constituencies including governments, the private sector, students, the media and other members of civil society.

Scripts for three booklets to provide printed material to CARICOM nationals on Social Security Competition Policy and Law and the Competition Commission, and two studio quality DVDs on Competition in the CSME were also produced in 2007. A symposium on Competition was also broadcast live on television from Barbados to all Member States.

Agricultural Development

Success was recorded with regard to the Agriculture Donor Conference which was held in Trinidad in June where a total of US\$11.3M was pledged. Follow-up work resulted in matching donors' interest in projects and submission of a refined project proposal to several donors. Thirty-nine national projects and 14 Regional projects were submitted to the Conference as an integrated package of projects. Among the key results of the Conference was confirmed funding by the Governments of Italy and

Spain regarding the use of innovative technology to expand the production base in agriculture in several Member States. By the end of 2007, the Directorate was organising for the hosting of an Agriculture Investment Forum scheduled to be held in Guyana in 2008.

In the area of Sanitary and Phyto-sanitary Initiatives, the Directorate has reported 80 per cent completion of the modernisation of legislation for animal and plant health and food safety, and 50 per cent completion of an assessment of laboratory infrastructure in the Region for animal and plant health and food safety. The animal health surveillance network for early intelligence in animal pests and diseases through the CARIBVet network was strengthened in the year under review. The Secretariat also coordinated the regional approach among Member States, regional and international agencies to manage the threat of Avian Influenza in the Region.

Services

Maintaining the consistency between the developing internal regime and the obligations resulting from liberalising the Regional services sector to third countries, was the focus of the Secretariat in the Services sub-programme. In this regard, early consensus was gained on the policies needed to operationalise the single space for services, and with regard to the CARIFORUM-EU EPA, the Secretariat also prepared and submitted to the EU Services and Investment Text and Offers.

During 2007, work was advanced on completing the regulatory framework for the provision of professional services in the CSME. Work was also to strengthen the services component of the private sector through the establishment of national services coalitions. Consultations were completed on Domestic Regulations for Professionals in Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, Grenada, Jamaica, St Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and

Trinidad and Tobago. Consultations were also held with Professional Bodies.

In addition, **Four Diagnostic Surveys were completed in The Bahamas, Belize, Jamaica and Suriname** on the "Willingness of the Stakeholders to form the National Coalition of Service Industries".

Transportation

Among the Secretariat's achievements in Transportation in 2007, were the establishment of a Task Force to pursue the establishment of an inter-island ferry service, and the preparation of and endorsement by the Conference of Heads of Government of the elements of a Community Transport Policy. Support was also provided for the regional coordination of the arrangements for the security of port facilities during Cricket World Cup 2007.

The refinement and finalisation of the text of the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System (CASSOS) and the preparation of the First Draft of a Revised CARICOM Multilateral Air Services Agreement were also completed in the year under review.

Customs and Trade Policy

In 2007, significant contributions were made to the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations on Market Access / Rules of Origin Negotiations in respect of trade in goods, and there was continued policing of the CARICOM regime for trade in goods.

The Secretariat also recorded progress with regard to the commencement of policy studies on **Free Circulation** and the **Harmonisation of Non-Tariff Trade Policy Instruments**. Agreement was also reached on draft Harmonised Customs Legislation, Regulations and Forms.



In addition, monitoring mechanisms were administered for rice and red kidney beans and the application of unauthorised non-tariff barriers to Intra-Regional trade were monitored and reported to the Secretariat.



III Human and Social Development

With 'Investing in Human Resources with Equity' as its recurrent theme, The Human and Sustainable Development Directorate in 2007 recorded significant achievements in the areas of Education, Youth and Development, and with the establishment of Security as a fourth pillar of the Community. The latter dictated that the Directorate incorporated crime and security issues into its Programmes.

With specific reference to crime and security, the Secretariat facilitated the policy development of and operationalisation of the Caribbean Community as a Single Domestic Space (SDS) for the hosting of Cricket World Cup 2007 in the Caribbean from 4 March – 28 April. The nine host venue countries – Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint, Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago - and Dominica participated in the SDS which was effective from 1 February – 15 May 2007. The new security infrastructure was one of the major legacy aspects of CWC 2007.



The eyes of the world's cricketing media are focused on the Australia-South Africa ICC CWC2007 Semi-Final.



West Indian Cricket Legends being honoured during Cricket World Cup in the Caribbean in 2007.





The sweet sounds of steel-pan music greeted fans entering the Grenada National Stadium during CWC 2007



Collaboration with IMPACS, Regional Security System (RSS) and other Regional and International Organisations and Third States in the implementation of the Regional Crime and Security Agenda was also one of the main areas of focus in the year under review.

In the area of Education, the Secretariat's achievements included the completion of arrangements for the issue of Caribbean Vocational Qualifications (CVQs) by three National Training Agencies. The CVQ was launched by Jamaica on 19 October 2007. Agreement was also reached with the Caribbean Examinations Council for the award of the CVQs in secondary schools.

Among the main achievements in the area of Youth Development, the Secretariat spearheaded arrangements that led to the signing of an agreement with TELESUR (Suriname) regarding the Promotion of the CSME by Youth. Continued emphasis was also placed on life skills training, Health and Family Life Education (HFLE) and training for out-of-school youth. In addition, a Commission on Youth Development was launched and an integrated research framework developed.

Secretary-General Carrington greets students of the Abrams Zuil Secondary School on a tour of the CARICOM Secretariat Headquarters, Turkeyen, Greater Georgetown, Guyana.





Schoolchildren in Tobago grab the attention of Secretary-General Carrington

Sustainable Development

In 2007, the Secretariat strengthened its collaboration with the UNELAC Sub-regional Headquarters in facilitating the work on the establishment of the Regional Co-ordinating Mechanism (RCM) for the further implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA) and the Mauritius Strategy of Implementation (MSI). The RCM was conceptualized as a mechanism to coordinate the implementation of sustainable development initiatives in the Region, following the adoption of the MSI, in order to maximize scarce human and financial resources and to avoid duplication of activities.

The thirteenth meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) held in Trinidad and Tobago in August, 2007, endorsed a structure for the RCM. The RCM would be made up of the Ministerial body as the main decision-making authority reporting to the CDCC, and a Technical Advisory Committee that reports to the Ministerial body. It was also decided that the UNECLAC Sub-regional Headquarters would host the Secretariat for the RCM. The RCM work programme would be designed to identify and co-ordinate the technical support needs and capacity-building requirements of Caribbean SIDS.

Renewable and Sustainable Energy

The provision of energy services is essential for the sustainable development of the Caribbean Region and ultimately poverty reduction. During 2007, the CARICOM Secretariat reactivated its Energy Programme in its effort to facilitate the finalisation and implementation of the Draft CARICOM Energy Policy. This will allow for consolidation of the gains made by various initiatives such as the Caribbean Renewable Energy Development Programme (CREDP).


In addition, the CARICOM Secretariat developed an energy proposal that was submitted and approved by the European Commission through its collaboration with the ACP States to support the latter in the development of its capacity for the sustainable management of its renewable energy resource base. The purpose of the project is to increase the contribution from renewable energy sources to the overall energy consumption of CARICOM countries, thereby placing the Community on track towards a cleaner, more secure and more competitive energy future, while also making a contribution to the global reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and pollution.

However, the Caribbean Region is still at the early

stage of the journey toward achieving sustainable and secure energy supplies, and the removal of the barriers for the increased use of Renewable Energy thereby reducing the Region's dependence on fossil fuels with all its deleterious effects.

The Energy Programme will ensure the on-going coordination of funding to continue the efforts of removing barriers to renewable energy deployment in the Caribbean region. As part of such efforts, the Secretariat in August, 2007, collaborated with the Inter-American Development Bank (IADB) and the Government of Guyana in the hosting of a high-level seminar on 'Expanding Bioenergy Opportunities in the Caribbean'.

The Environment



Member states in the Region are faced with a number of challenges that impose varying levels of environmental vulnerability. These, in turn, present challenges for the Region's sustainable development. Further, the economic development and increasing prosperity of the region, as envisaged by the CSME, present both challenges and opportunities for protecting the environment. In recent times, the Community has been moving toward being more proactive in dealing with environmental issues at all levels. The Barbados Programme of Action and Mauritius Strategy for Implementation are guiding the Caribbean countries in their endeavour to achieve sound environmental protection policies. Yet, despite positive advances on some fronts, the Region continues to face a number of persistent problems.

In 2007, the Secretariat worked on the development of a draft policy framework with the aim of establishing a plan of action to address all environmental matters in the Community with a strong focus on cross-cutting links with all sectors that affect natural resources and environmental management. The CARICOM Secretariat anticipates that the policy would fully address the environmental dimension in the sustainable development of the region in a balanced and harmonized way across all

sectors. The framework would also aim at the ultimate transformation of the patterns of growth in CARICOM in such a way as to increase productivity and employment in the Community, ensure a healthy environment and achieve sustainable development.

Focus was also maintained towards developing a framework to address the capacity needs of CARICOM Member States regarding their commitments to a number of Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) that are of critical importance to the development of the region. There has been a rapid increase in Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) that address a multitude of environmental concerns from climate change, biodiversity, and desertification to hazardous waste and chemicals. The adoption of these instruments is just the beginning of a process. Full implementation of their provisions is vital to ensure their effectiveness and full value. The main challenges to implementation include funding, appropriate environment policies, human resources and technological capacity. National approaches and institutional capacity to address MEAs also vary widely across the Region. Although national plans and programmes exist in some countries, institutional arrangements for implementing MEAs are not well developed. The lack of accepted indicators for assessing the impact of MEAs means that only a qualitative view can be given of progress towards implementation. In recognition of these difficulties, the programme continues to focus on building a synergistic approach to providing assistance to Member States in the implementation of commitments under the MEAs.

Climate Change

During the year under review, Climate Change was on top of the international policy agenda. The Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) concluded that global warming was "unequivocally" the result of human activities and the focus of attention at Bali

Conference, 3-14 December, 2007, on Climate Change was on what was required to address the consequences of Climate Change.

The CARICOM Secretariat and the Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC) continued their collaboration in the development of a number of strategic positions to assist Member States to address the development challenges posed by Climate Change to the region. In October, 2007, the Secretariat facilitated the Centre in the establishment of a partnership agreement with the Government of the United Kingdom on a project to develop a comprehensive regional strategy on climate change and climate-related matters. The project would assist the Centre in its efforts to develop a regional strategic framework on Climate Change.

This framework would provide the basis for:

i. training in Member States on climate change-

related international negotiation and lobbying techniques to address the concerns of CARICOM Member States;

- ii. training in regional process management linked to EC regional programme to enhance regional economic integration;
- iii. technical training of economic policy makers on Climate Change (drawing on the UK Stern report analysis);
- iv. technical training of physical/development planning policy making;
- v. increased capacity in the Region to incorporate climate change criteria in national development planning.

This particular effort seeks to support and develop a full cadre of experts to effectively plan and manage the climate change capacity development needs of CARICOM Member States.



From left, Mr. Garfield Barnwell Director, Sustainable Development, CARICOM Secretariat; Dr. Edward Greene, Assistant Secretary-General, Human and Social Development; His Excellency Fraser Wheeler, British High Commissioner to Guyana; His Excellency Edwin Carrington, Secretary-General of CARICOM; Dr. Ken Leslie, Executive Director, Caribbean Community Climate Change Centre (CCCCC); and Dr. Ulric Trotz, Science Adviser to the CCCCC, at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the CCCCC and the UK Department for International Development (DFID).

Disaster Management

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA)¹, continues to spearhead disaster management in the Caribbean Community. In establishing the link between disasters and the sustainable development of the Community, CDERA adopted the strategic framework for Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM) in 2001. The strategic objective of CDM is the integration of disaster management considerations into the development planning and decision-making process. In 2007, the focus of attention was on the enhanced institutional support at the national level to ensure that the CDM is mainstreamed in CARICOM Member States.

CDM has provided a platform for the harnessing of regional stakeholders and resources in support of disaster management. With the embracing of CDM by the Region and against a background of recent global catastrophes, there is now an intense desire among disaster management Stakeholders in the Caribbean to accelerate initiatives in promoting disaster loss reduction. The Region, through the 2005-2015 Programming Framework, has outlined priority themes and associated outcomes as a mechanism for channelling the interventions of Stakeholders wishing to support the building of resilient communities.

The review process yielded results to support three key outcomes.

These outcomes were:

- A Regional Donor Programme for disaster management initiatives;
- A Reviewed and Enhanced CDM Framework;
- A Comprehensive CDM Monitoring Mechanism



¹The Members of CDERA are all CARICOM member states (except Haiti and Suriname) as well as Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands and the Turks and Caicos Islands

IV Foreign and Community Relations

Through its Foreign Policy and Community Relations Programme, the Secretariat continued to place priority on the Community's efforts at coordinating its foreign policies, broadening its economic space, attracting resources, preserving its security and addressing common concerns. In this regard, the Secretariat facilitated the Community in its preparations for dialogue and interface with traditional, like-minded and new external partners.

Among its achievements for 2007 were strengthened relations with the US Congress and International Agencies in Washington. Considerable energy was devoted to the Conference on the Caribbean held in Washington 19-21 June 2007, at which relations were strengthened with the Caribbean Diaspora. The increased focus placed on its own Diaspora as well as the African Diaspora strengthened the Community's outreach to its Diaspora and led to increased political interface with the African Union and with South Africa.

Relations with non-CARICOM Overseas Countries and Territories (OCTs) were enhanced through visits undertaken by the Secretary-General to Guadeloupe and Curacao.

Summits were held with Central America, the United States and Canada, and cooperation relations were strengthened with Japan and South Korea. Support was provided in the development of structured relations with new partners such as Austria and Russia as well as with recently acquired partners such as Italy, Spain, Germany and Austria. Initial approaches from non-traditional partners such as Turkey, Poland and Morocco were also accommodated in the year under review.

Importance was paid to relations of cooperation and goodwill with regional and inter-governmental organisations of longstanding such as the Association of Caribbean States (ACS), the Organisation of American States (OAS), the Latin American Economic System (SELA); the Commonwealth Secretariat, and the United Nations (UN) through consultations, the continued pursuit of ties of cooperation and participation in activities to which the Secretariat was invited.

The coordination of Electoral Observer Missions to Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago and the re-opening of the CARICOM Representation Office in Haiti in October 2007 were among the other achievements.



Ambassador Ellsworth John addresses one of the Town Hall Meetings in preparation for the Conference on the Caribbean





Pictured left: H.E. Marianne DaCosta, Austria's Ambassador to the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), chats with H.E. Edwin Carrington, CARICOM Secretary-General and Amb. Colin Granderson, Assistant Secretary-General, Foreign and Community Relations (backing Camera), at the CARICOM Secretariat shortly before she presented her credentials.



Pictured right: H.E. Edwin Carrington, CARICOM Secretary-General, greets H.E. Amaili Mai, Ambassador of Belize to the CARICOM.



EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE RELATIONS

Both the Foreign and Community Relations and the External Economic and Trade Relations Programmes are responsible for executing economic and trade strategies with external partners through the negotiation and implementation of a system of trade and economic arrangements, promoting the coordination of the foreign policies of Member States and advancing governance within the Community.

In this regard, in the year under review, the Secretariat was instrumental in organising several events including the 20th Special Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) (Strategic Issues in External Trade

Negotiations) in Montego Bay, Jamaica, 02-03 February, 2007; a meeting in Port of Spain in September 2007 to co-ordinate the Community's participation in Expo Zaragoza.

The Secretariat undertook the sensitisation of the private sector on the following bilateral agreements - CARICOM/Cuba, Feb 06, 2007; CARICOM/Costa Rica, Barbados, June 05 - and hosted a CAIC Meeting, Guyana 05 October, 2007.

There was also the facilitation of the WTO/IDB/INTAL training workshops: Barbados; 02-06 July; Trinidad and Tobago 09-13 July; Jamaica 31 July- 02 August; Trinidad and Tobago 17-21 September; St. Lucia 17-19 October; and Guyana 26-28 November, 2007, as well as the facilitation of Stakeholders' Meetings on Sugar, Rum, Bananas and Rice.

The Programme also managed the (US\$186,833) Hub & Spokes Project for the COMSEC.



Pictured above: Deputy Secretary-General H.E. Lolita Applewhaite is interviewed in Xiamen, China, during the Second China-Caribbean Economic and Trade Cooperation Forum in September 2007.



V Legal and Institutional Development

In 2007, the Office of the General Counsel continued to provide critical support for the establishment of the CARICOM Single Market and Single Economy CSME; legal and advisory services to Member States, Associate Members of the Community, Organs, Bodies, Institutions and Associate Institutions of the Community and to the Secretariat.

Significant legal and advisory services were provided for the new security infrastructure established for the hosting of CWC 2007 in the Caribbean from 4 March – 28 April. The nine host venue countries – Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint, Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago - and Dominica participated in the Single Domestic Space (SDS) which was effective from 1 February – 15 May 2007. The new security infrastructure was one of the major legacy aspects of CWC 2007.

Among the new instruments that were drafted by the Office and the Legal Drafting Facility in support of the Security Infrastructure established for CWC 2007 were:

- **Agreement Establishing the CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)**
- **Memorandum of Understanding for the Sharing of Intelligence Among Member States of the Caribbean Community; a Treaty on Security Assistance among CARICOM Member States, a Protocol to the Treaty on Security Assistance on the Establishment of the CARICOM Operations Planning and Coordinating Staff (COPACS), a Treaty on Security Assistance Bill 2007 and a Visiting Forces Bill 2007 and Visiting Police Forces Bill 2007**
- **The CARICOM Special Visa Agreement, the ICC Cricket World Cup West Indies (Special Visa) Regulations and an Immigration (Amendment) Bill, 2006 and Amendments 2007**
- **Customs (Passenger and Cargo Information) Regulations and Amendments in 2007 and an Agreement on the Pre-clearance of Passengers and Goods for the purposes of CWC 2007 and a Pre-clearance Bill, 2006**
- **Memorandum of Intent Between the Government of the United States of America and Member States of the Caribbean Community on Co-operation Regarding the Development of an Advance Passenger Information System and Memoranda of Understanding between South Africa and Barbados, Grenada and Saint Lucia; Memorandum of Understanding between Bermuda and Barbados in respect of visiting forces.**

With respect to the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, two new major initiatives were supported. The first of these was the Inauguration of the Caribbean Community Competition Commission including the conclusion of the Headquarters Agreement between the Caribbean Community and the Government of Suriname; the Protocol on Privileges and Immunities for the Commission and resolution of the arrangements for the structure of, and staffing for, the Commission.



The other new initiative was the implementation of the Regional Development Fund and Agency.

In addition, the Secretariat provided support for the drafting of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime Instrument; and for the commencement of the consultations on the Human Rights Treaty and for a Legal Human Resource Needs Assessment Project.

In the year under review, the Protocol to the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice on the Age of Retirement for Judges was completed; the registration of treaties pursuant to the United Nations Charter was effected; and support was lent to the drafting and finalisation of the CARICOM-Dominican Republic, CARICOM-Costa Rica and CARICOM-Central America Agreements.

Significant support was also provided in relation to staff employment and tenancy agreements, consultancy and service contracts.



VI Office of the Deputy Secretary-General

In 2007, the Office of the Deputy Secretary-General concentrated its efforts on completing a number of initiatives that were intended to enhance the quality of services provided through the normal operational systems of the following functions:

- financial,
- administrative,
- human resource management,
- conference services,
- information and documentation management,
- information technology,
- statistical and resource mobilisation and
- technical assistance.

Among the new initiatives were the merger of the CARIFORUM Secretariat with the CARICOM Secretariat and the establishment of the CARIFORUM Directorate. The Secretariats of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and Caribbean Forum of African Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM) CARICOM Secretariats were merged in 2007 with the CARIFORUM Directorate being established as an effectively functioning Directorate of the CARICOM Secretariat.

With its goal being the implementation of CARIFORUM's Regional Development Strategy through sound development programmes with funding from the European Development Fund, the Directorate during the year under review identified and followed up on intra and extra-CARIFORUM Cooperation.

The CARICOM Secretariat also provided assistance to the Regional Preparatory Task Force (RPTF) for the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) negotiations which were concluded with the European Union on 16 December 2008. In addition, it provided further programming, implementation and closure of Regional Projects and supported the process for the tenth EDF Programming.

Among the other initiatives recorded by the Secretariat were:

- (i) the operationalisation of the results-based management approach and the monitoring of achievement of results;
- (ii) the introduction of programme budgeting, the strengthening of the procurement system and the upgrading of accounting software with the introduction of a new module to improve the monitoring and reporting capacity;
- (iii) the completion of the Human Resource Audit and the strengthening of the Staff Training and Wellness Programme;
- (iv) the implementation of an Information Technology Disaster Recovery Plan and the linking of the Secretariat with ten Member States via the Video Conferencing facility;
- (v) the introduction of a programmatic approach to resource mobilisation which resulted in a coordinated donor strategy for the CSME;
- (vi) the compilation of social statistics for education, health and work and economy sectors; establishment of a data dissemination strategy utilising DEVINFO software in Member States and at the Secretariat; an Analytical Report on Population, Household and Families focusing on the aging population;
- vii) Capacity building in statistics in Member States.

Resource Mobilisation and Technical Assistance (RMTA)

The Caribbean Community has embraced the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness which has been adopted by most of the Region's donor partners.



This Declaration seeks more coherence, accountability, improved performance and harmonisation in the delivery of donor assisted programmes. In this context, the CARICOM Secretariat is playing a lead role in the coordination of donor-supported activity for the Region's development programmes. The Secretariat, in consultation with Member States, drafted a CARICOM Regional Resource Mobilisation Strategy towards the end of 2007. Once finalized in consultation with the CARICOM Regional Institutions, this Strategy will guide the Region's approach to International Development Partners (IDPs) who support regional development initiatives.

During 2007, the Secretariat concluded several major agreements with IDPs, notable among which were:

- 
- (i) the Caribbean Integration Support Programme (39 Million euros) financed under the 57 Million euros 9th European Development Fund which will assist in addressing capacity constraints related to the establishment / operationalisation of the CSME and in deepening Caribbean regional integration and cooperation; and**
 - (ii) the CARICOM Trade and Competitiveness Project (Cdn\$10,884,500) financed under the Cdn\$600 Million commitment to the Region from the Government of Canada which will support increased administrative, functional and participatory effectiveness of the CSME as well as Haiti's full participation in the CSME.**

In addition to support from Canada and the European Union, the Region continues to receive support from a range of sources such as the Governments of Germany, Italy, Japan, Spain, South Korea, United Kingdom and the United States of America as well as from the Caribbean Development Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat, the Inter-American Development Bank, the World Bank and several United Nations System Agencies including the Global Environmental Facility, the United Nations

Development Programme and the United Nations Population Fund.

The Secretariat continued its work to assist Member States to remove hurdles to the implementation of regional decisions. To this end, the unit completed interventions in several Member States in areas such as the CET, the CSME and specifically the Movement of Persons.

In the year under review, the Secretariat provided technical assistance to move St. Kitts and Nevis to Phase IV of the CET and place this Member State in a position to implement the revised structure of the CET based on the harmonized description and coding system 2007.

The Secretariat also facilitated the creation of a new Common External Tariff Exemptions Recording and Analysis System (CERAS) module. The project also involved the input of suspension and safeguard data. This is geared at ensuring that CERAS captures enough historical data to allow for more meaningful statistical analysis.

Another key intervention was completed in Grenada where a project was designed to remove the serious backlog of trade data caused by the damage of Hurricane Ivan – estimated at 750 records per working day.

An important component under the Movement of Persons regime is the installation of mechanisms for equivalency and accreditation. Some Member States continued to face the challenge of establishing national accreditation infrastructure either fully or even with limited functioning and required differing degrees of support to establish these accreditation mechanisms. Belize was identified as one such Member State that has an accreditation body with limited functioning that can benefit significantly from training in this area. The Secretariat facilitated a three-day training workshop on 29–31 October 2007, at the Belize Institute of Management, Belize City, Belize for officials with responsibility for accreditation. The facilitator was Dr. Ethley London, Executive Director, University Council of Jamaica.

As the Community renewed its focus on functional cooperation, TASU completed key elements of the South-South cooperation initiative. A database for consultants was created and tested. The goal of this expanded roster of regional experts was to facilitate quick access to new expertise in a wider range of specialised fields.

The Secretariat also mounted technical missions to strengthen arrangements for monitoring CSME implementation to Belize, Haiti and Suriname.

OPERATIONS OF THE SECRETARIAT

Finance and Budget

In the year 2007, the Community Council approved a budget of EC\$46,540,855 for the CARICOM Secretariat. The CARICOM Secretariat also received EC\$74,288,307 from International Development Partners as advances for spending in the financial year and future years for specific programmes and projects.

In the year under review, a saving of EC\$3,629,498 (7.8%) was realized on the approved budget. Through very prudent financial management, the Secretariat expended EC \$42,911,357 from Member States contributions. With respect to funding from IDPs the sum of EC \$19,798,703 was expended.

The table below is a summary of expenditure funded from Member States contributions:

	2007 Approved Budget EC\$	2007 Actual Expenditure EC\$
Head I - Salaries, Fees and Allowances	34,802,905	31,699,954
Head II - Other Operating Expenses	11,376,450	10,898,345
Head III - Capital Expenditure	361,500	313,058
TOTAL	46,540,855	42,911,357

The Secretariat received an unqualified opinion on its Financial Statements for 2007 from the External Auditors. The Auditors' Report indicated that "the Financial Statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Caribbean Community Secretariat at December 31, 2007, its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in the significant accounting policies notes to the financial statements."

Conference Services

In the year under review approximately 200 meetings in Georgetown and in the Region were serviced by the Secretariat. Attention was also paid to capacity building in this area to include areas such as Document Reproduction Systems and Procedures Management, Information Technology, Spanish Language and Project Management.

Documentation Centre



One of the memorable highlights of 2007 was the mounting of an exhibition at the Secretariat under the theme *Celebrating West Indies Cricket*. This event coincided with the ICC CWC World Cup series which was hosted by the Caribbean in nine of its territories, and was launched by Dr the Hon Ralph Gonsalves, Chairman of the Caribbean Community. The exhibition highlighted the Region's cricketing history, heroes and symbols and included books, articles, photographs, statistics on cricket as well as novelty items and memorabilia pertaining to West Indies cricket. A bibliography was prepared to mark the occasion.

The Legal Section of the Documentation Centre was greatly enhanced by the acquisition of legal materials which were acquired under the CCDP Governance project. Materials included legal texts, updated legislation of CARICOM countries and legal journals. Online access to legal databases was one of the significant additions to the legal collection.

VII Appendices

THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY SECRETARIAT

The task of drawing together the separate but interlocking strands of the Work Programme of the CARICOM Secretariat falls under the ambit of the Secretary-General - the Chief Executive Officer of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) who is assisted by the Deputy Secretary-General, the General Counsel, and the Assistant Secretaries-General responsible for Trade and Economic Integration, Foreign and Community Relations, and the Human and Social Development, respectively.

Administrative leadership, political and technical advice and support for the work of the Organs of the Community and Member States are provided through this means.

The CARICOM Secretary-General also serves as the Secretary-General of the Caribbean Forum (CARIFORUM) of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States - the grouping comprising the independent CARICOM Member States, Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

FUNCTIONS OF THE CARICOM SECRETARIAT:

- Service meetings of the Organs and Bodies of the Community and take appropriate follow-up action to such meetings;
- Initiate, organise and conduct studies on issues for the achievement of the objectives of the Community;
- Provide, on request, services to Member States of the Community on matters relating to the achievement of its objectives;
- Collect, store and disseminate to Member States of the Community information relevant for the achievement of its objectives;
- Assist Community Organs in the development and implementation of proposals and programmes for the achievement of objectives of the Community;
- Prepare the draft budget of the Community for examination by the Budget Committee;
- Provide, on request, technical assistance to national authorities to facilitate implementation of Community decisions;
- Conduct, as mandated fact-finding missions in Member States; and
- Initiate or develop proposals for consideration and decision by competent Organs in order to achieve Community objectives.



Executive Management of the Caribbean Community Secretariat 2007



*Her Excellency
Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite
Deputy Secretary-General*



*His Excellency Edwin Carrington
Secretary-General*



*Dr. Edward Greene
Assistant Secretary-General
Human and Social Development*



*His Excellency
Ambassador Colin Granderson
Assistant Secretary-General
Foreign and Community Relations*



*His Excellency
Ambassador Irwin LaRaocque
Assistant Secretary-General
Trade and Economic Integration*

The Community Council of Ministers (The Council)

The Council is the second highest Organ. It consists of Ministers responsible for Community Affairs and any other Minister designated by Member States in their absolute discretion. It is responsible for the development of Community strategic planning and coordination in the areas of economic integration, functional cooperation and external relations.

Other Community Organs

The principal organs of the Community are assisted in the performance of their functions by the following four Ministers Councils:

- The Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) promotes trade and economic development of the Community and oversees the operations of the CSM&E;
- The Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) determines relations with international organisations and third states;
- The Council for Human and Social Development (COHSOD) promotes human and social Development;
- The Council for Finance and Planning (COFAP) coordinates economic policy and financial and monetary integration of Member States.
- The Council for National Security and Law Enforcement (CONSLE) coordinates security and law enforcement arrangements across the Community.

The established Bodies of the Community are:

The Legal Affairs Committee
The Budget Committee
The Committee of Central Bank Governors



The existing Institutions of the Caribbean Community are:

Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency	(CDERA)
Caribbean Meteorological Institute	(CMI)
Caribbean Meteorological Organisation	(CMO)
Caribbean Environmental Health Institute	(CEHI)
Caribbean Agriculture Research and Development Institute	(CARDI)
Association of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians	(ACCP)
Caribbean Centre for Development Administration	(CARICAD)
Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute	(CFNI)

Under the Treaty, the following entities are Associate Institutions of the Community:

Caribbean Development Bank	(CDB)
Caribbean Examination Council	(CXC)
University of Guyana	(UG)
University of the West Indies	(UWI)
Caribbean Law Institute / Caribbean Law Institute Centre	(CLI / CLIC)

ACRONYMS

ACP	African, Caribbean and Pacific States
ACCP	Association of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians
ACS	Association of Caribbean States
BPoA	Barbados Programme of Action
CAIC	Caribbean Association of Industry and Commerce
CAMID	Caribbean AgriBusiness Marketing intelligence and Development Network
CARIB-IS	Caribbean Information Society Project
CARDI	Caribbean Agriculture Research and Development Institute
CAREC	Caribbean Epidemiology Centre
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFESTA	Caribbean Festival of Arts
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of ACP States
CARTAC	Caribbean Regional and Technical Assistance Centre
CCDP	Caribbean Capacity Development Project
CCJ	Caribbean Court of Justice
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CDERA	Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency
CDTA	CARICOM Double Taxation Agreement
CEHI	Caribbean Environment Health Institute
CET	Common External Tariff
CHAYN	Caribbean HIV/AIDS Youth Network
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CLA	Committee of Lead Agencies / Associations
CLDF	CARICOM Legal Drafting Facility
CMO	Caribbean Meteorological Organisation
COFCOR	Council for Foreign and Community Relations
COFAP	Council for Finance and Planning
COHSOD	Council for Human and Social Development
COTED	Council for Trade and Economic Development
CPAGCC	Caribbean Planning for Adaption to Global Climate Change
CPC	Chief Parliamentary Council
CRNM	Caribbean Regional Negotiating Machinery
CROSQ	CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality
CSME	CARICOM Single Market and Economy
CYAP	CARICOM Youth Ambassador Programme
DFID	Department of International Development
EC	Eastern Caribbean
EEC	European Economic Commission
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EU-LAC	European Union - Latin American and the Caribbean




ACRONYMS

FCR	Foreign and Community Relations
FOODEX	International Food and Drink Exhibition
FTAA	Free Trade Area of the Americas
HFLE	Health and Family Life Education
IBRD	International Bank for Recommendation and Development
IDB	Inter-American Development Bank
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
MDC	More Developed Country
MDGs	Millennium Development Goals
OAS	Organisation of American States
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
PANCAP	Pan Caribbean Partnership Against HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean
PEP	Public Education Programme
PLWA	Person Living with AIDS
POA	Plan of Action
RJLSC	Regional Judiciary and Legal Service Commission
SIDS	Small Island Developing States
SIRHASC	Strengthening and Institutional Response to HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean Project
SME	Small and Medium-sized Enterprise
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
TASU	Technical Action Service Unit
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UK	United Kingdom
UN/AIDS	United Nations Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
UWI	University of the West Indies
WSIS	World Summit on the Information Society
WTO	World Trade Organisation



Notes





ISBN 978-976-600-4 (pbk)
EAN 9789766001964

Produced by
Power Marketing - Guyana



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