

***Extract From Draft Summary of Conclusions And  
Recommendations OF 15<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL,  
GEORGETOWN, GUYANA, JANUARY 2005***

**ESTABLISHMENT OF A REGIONAL STATISTICAL PROGRAMME IN  
SUPPORT OF THE CSME**

**THE COMMUNITY COUNCIL:**

**Urged** Regional governments to give priority to investing in national statistical information systems in order to enable an appropriate level of resources to undertake the collection, compilation, analysis and dissemination of statistics to support the CSME;

**Endorsed** the need to invest these resources in statistics on a sustained basis focusing particularly on the human and financial resource needs of national statistical offices;

**Also urged** Member States to update their statistics legislation to obtain the information required for national and regional decision-making including the mandatory submission of relevant detailed national statistics to the Secretariat;

**Also endorsed** the need for the statistical systems in Member States to implement the regional statistical programme for establishing, monitoring and evaluating the CSME;

**Recommended** the adoption of a Regional Statistical Programme incorporating a three-year programme of work as prepared by the Secretariat and the SCCS, subject to other issues considered necessary for inclusion;

**Also recommended** that national and regional statistical development strategies with financial proposals be prepared to enable the implementation of the Regional Statistical Work Programme;

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**Encouraged** regional and international organisations to collaborate and integrate their resources to enable greater efficiency in the provision of technical assistance and funding of the programmes to be instituted in statistics in the Region; and

**Further endorsed** the Resolution which urged Governments of the Caribbean to:

- (i) Give priority to the strengthening of national statistical systems, particularly National Statistical Offices (NSOs) to undertake the collection, processing, analysis and dissemination of statistics;
- (ii) Provide the NSOs with the human, material, technical and financial resources and logistic support to produce the data required by users;
- (iii) Enact the necessary monitoring and evaluation legislative and regulatory instruments to facilitate the execution of the mandate of the NSOs; and
- (iv) Establish an intensive sensitisation programme to encourage participation and early response from all stakeholders - users, producers and suppliers – with respect to the production of relevant and timely statistics.

