



ANNUAL REPORT

Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism



April 1st, 2004 to March 31st, 2005

***Towards Sustainable Development of
Fisheries for the People of the Caribbean***



➤ **MISSION** ➤

To promote and facilitate the responsible utilization of the Region's fisheries and other aquatic resources for the economic and social benefit of the current and future population of the Region



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RFM

FOREWORD



Programme Year 2004 - 05 is the second year in the life of the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) and its Secretariat. Within its Corporate management life cycle, we are in the embryonic stage of our development. A number of ground-breaking achievements have been recorded since the inauguration on March 26th, 2003.

To Member States of the Caribbean Community, the fisheries sub-sector is strategically very important for sustained economic opportunities and social soundness as well as for food security and economic growth, particularly within rural communities and among the poor. However, it faces numerous challenges for sustainability, trade competitiveness and modernization. To meet these chal-

lenges and position the CRFM to be a major player, Member States have endorsed a Strategic Plan (2003 / 04 – 2009 / 10) and a Vision that speaks to:

the sustainable use of the fisheries and aquaculture resources in and among Member States, by the development, management and conservation of these resources in collaboration with stakeholders to the benefit of the people of the Caribbean region.

To operationalise the Strategic Plan, which embraces nine Priority Areas, the first Medium Term Plan (MTP) (2004/05 - 2006/07) was also approved by Member States, through the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, and endorsed by the regional Ministerial Council-COTED. The MTP has been prepared as a compendium of fifteen project profiles drawn from the nine approved Priority Areas. This style of presentation of the MTP allows the CRFM Secretariat to hold discussions with the International Donor Community based on specific areas of donor interest. If interest is positive the project profiles are then developed into full scale project proposals for funding consideration. Programme areas to be addressed encompass: research and data analysis to support policy formulation and decision making, enablement for global competitiveness, resource assessment and management, development of skills and expertise, institutional strengthening, improving the quality of community participation for effective co-management, and the diversification and expansion of aquatic resources.

This Annual Report (2004/05) captures our achievements during the second year of the three year MTP. The main activities that were implemented had as their areas of focus:

- Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM
- CARIFIS database and support (Caribbean Fisheries Information System)
- Provision of technical support at National, Regional and International Fora (e.g. Fisheries Management Plans, National Consultations, ICCAT, FAO, etc.)
- First Annual Scientific Meeting of the CRFM
- Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch (*strombus gigas*) resources in the CRFM Member States
- Human Resource Development and Institutional Strengthening

Outputs have been positive. A new Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS) has been designed to replace the Trip Interview Programme (TIP) and the Licensing and Registration System (LRS). Data Managers are being trained to operate and manage the system and new computer systems have been given to some Member States.



Significant progress has been made in developing the Framework for a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for CARICOM. This activity has been accorded high priority status by the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM. It is expected that the draft Framework Document will be completed in the near future for consideration by regional legal experts.

The First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting of regional and international fisheries experts was held in Kingstown, St. Vincent and the Grenadines in June 2004. A technical report on the findings and outputs has been published. A CD is also available to stakeholders on request.

A campaign to encourage Member States to introduce and/or update existing Fisheries Management Plans is now in its second year. The Secretariat's Fisheries Management and Development Programme, with support from individual Member States, is providing leadership in the implementation of this activity.

We have provided technical support to Member States at International Fora eg. ICCAT, and have also provided technical backstopping and coordination under the Research and Resource Assessment Programme. This work has taken on greater importance with more CRFM Member States becoming Contracting or Cooperating Parties of ICCAT.

Member States' financial contributions to the CRFM Secretariat have become our primary source of funding. These contributions represent 80.5 percent of the 2004 / 05 core budget. Donor supported projects which in the past years were the dominant source of financial inflows now represent about 19.5 per cent of the budget. Our resource mobilization efforts in support of our Strategic Plan have reached an advanced stage and there are promising indications of support under the CARICOM-Japan Cooperation Agreement; the European Commission-CARICOM initiative and smaller donors such as the Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation, the International Development Research Council and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations.

We are heartened by the support of Member States in meeting their financial contributions to the CRFM Secretariat. Making financial contributions on a timely basis is a positive indicator of commitment by Member States to the CRFM. There are a few countries in arrears but these represent a minority. We are hopeful that those Member States whose payments are in arrears will change their status. We wish to record our appreciation for the technical and corporate support provided by:

- Member States especially under the TCDC initiatives.
- The CARICOM Secretariat for providing audit and financial oversight functions.
- The OECS Secretariat for providing technical support and coordinating programme implementation in OECS Member States.

We look forward to continued support in the coming years.

Last, but by no means least, we record our appreciation to the Chairman and Members of the Forum, Members of the Executive Committee of the Forum, members of the many technical Working Groups, rapporteurs (from the CARICOM Secretariat and Member States) and other service providers without whose hard work and dedicated input the CRFM Secretariat's programmes and projects could not have been successfully implemented.

We invite you not only to read this Report but also visit our website www.caricom-fisheries.com for more detailed information which complements this document.

Hugh Saul
Executive Director

1. HIGHLIGHTS OF ACHIEVEMENTS

The formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) continued to be a priority activity for the CRFM Secretariat. Progress has reached the stage where social, economic and linkages inputs and the legal aspects are to be incorporated. A technical review paper prepared by the CRFM Secretariat made a strong case for the Region's need for a Fisheries Management Organization to facilitate decision-making in respect of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime.

The Working Group approach continued to be the chief mechanism for implementing programmes and activities. The importance of the Working Groups was raised to new heights with the convening of the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting which attracted a number of regional and international fisheries scientists to work collaboratively in reviewing and analyzing available data, conducting stock assessments and developing management recommendations for critical fisheries. The report of the workshop has been published.

The number of CARICOM / CARIFORUM States that received assistance from the CRFM Secretariat to update their Fisheries Management Plans grew by eight (8) during this reporting year. These were The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Dominican Republic, Haiti, Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, and Antigua and Barbuda.

The CRFM Secretariat continued to provide technical advisories and support to Member States in satisfying the demands of international fisheries management bodies such as ICCAT, CITES and the FAO. The matter of Queen Conch management and the threats posed by CITES, including the sanctions imposed on some Member States, engaged the CRFM this year, and the CRFM Secretariat, with limited resources, addressed problems that needed immediate attention. Meanwhile, a proposal for the Rehabilitation and Management of the Queen Conch in the Region has been submitted to the FAO, USAID and NOAA for possible funding, and means are being explored to find out how the metropolitan states of the OCT countries can be of assistance in the funding of the project in their subject territories.

Resource mobilization efforts were stepped up during the year. A Consultancy draft report on the Study of the Impact of Globalization on the sustainable management of the fisheries resources in the Region was completed in two volumes, ready for distribution to Member States for review and comments. A proposal for Improving the National and Regional Mechanisms / Systems for Fisheries Management and Development was submitted to the European Union for consideration of funding.

Under the CARICOM - Japan Cooperation Agreement, a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean. A framework document highlighting the components of the programme was signed by the Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat and the Leader of a JICA / Japan delegation, in Belize in March 2005, paving the way for the implementation process to begin, hopefully by August / September 2005.

The first stage of an FAO/TCP Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Area Management programme dealing with how socio-economic variables and demographic considerations can be used in preparing development plans and the impacts of such plans on fisheries and livelihoods is near completion. An international workshop to discuss the findings is scheduled to be held in Trinidad and Tobago in June 2005.

The technical and financial coordinating and monitoring of six (6) projects by the CRFM Secretariat, under the second phase of the IDRC/CBCRM Project, ended in February 2005 with the compilation and submission of the final report to the IDRC.



The CRFM Secretariat experienced difficulties in finding a suitable candidate to fill the vacant position of Programme Manager, Statistics and Information. It is hoped that this post will be filled in the ensuing year. However, the Secretariat, by engaging a consultant, continued to assist Member States in transferring legacy data bases from LRS and TIP systems into the new microsoft-based CARIFIS Programme and provided training in the use and management of the CARIFIS Programme.

ACTA/CRFM -funded Organizational Needs Assessment Study was conducted in the area of strengthening the Region's Fisherfolk Organizations to prepare them for their role in the co-management of the fisheries resources of the Region. The published Report of the findings of this study was the subject of a regional workshop held in Belize in October 2004 at which representatives of Fisherfolk Organizations in the Region were the main participants.

An important outcome of this workshop was the acceptance, in principle, by the participants of the five recommendations made in the Report on the way forward. Accordingly, a five-member Pro-Tem Working Group made up of Belize, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, and Antigua and Barbuda was formed with an initial mandate of transforming the recommendations into a Medium-term Plan of Action. The pro-tem Working Group will be having its first meeting in mid-2005 at which time the Terms of Reference and Mode of Operation of the Working Group, and a Medium Term Plan of Action (Strategies and Projects) would be drafted to facilitate resource mobilization.

In the area of Advocacy, the publishing of a CRFM Bi-Annual Newsletter came to a vibrant start during this year with the publication of the first two issues which were quite well received.

2. RESOURCE MOBILISATION

2.1 Donor Sources

2.1.1 *The CARIFORUM Project*

In February 2004 the CRFM Secretariat secured a further extension of support from the EU through a Third Work Programme which resulted in an additional US \$345,000 to the fisheries programme and the extension of the terminal date of the CARIFORUM Project to April 30, 2004.

The Third Work Programme, February 16, 2004 to April 30, 2004 was designed to facilitate the finalization of outstanding activities thereby allowing targeted outputs to be achieved. The number of activities was reduced and refocused to ensure cost-effective delivery within the limitation of the proposed budget and time frame, taking into consideration the absorptive capacity of the countries and the need for sustainability of the intervention.

2.1.2 *IDRC funded Community-Based Coastal Resource Management (CBCRM) Programme in the Caribbean*

The IDRC Canada funded Research Programme on Community-Based Coastal Resource Management provided support for Caribbean institutions and individuals undertaking interdisciplinary research in seeking solutions to problems of coastal resource management. Phase 1 of the CBCRM project ended in March 2002. Prior to the end of Phase 1, the CFU¹, in collaboration with the Instituto Internacional del Oceano (IOI), prepared and submitted a proposal to the IDRC for a second phase of the project. The proposal for Phase 2 was approved in February 2002 and implementation commenced in March 2002. Fifteen projects were selected for funding during Phase 2 of the CBCRM project. Successful projects are distributed as follows: Belize (2), Dominica (1), Dominican Republic (1), Cuba (3), Grenada (1), Guatemala (1), Jamaica (1), Mexico (2), Panama (1), Trinidad and Tobago (1), and Venezuela (1). Field implementation of the small grant projects commenced during the summer of 2002 and continued through 2003. Responsibility for monitoring the projects was divided between the CRFM Secretariat and the IOI. Implementation of most projects ended in 2004. Phase 2 came to an end on February 28, 2005. The publication of a book on the project outcomes is expected to be completed after March 31, 2005.

2.1.3 *CARICOM - JAPAN Cooperation Agreement*

The Government of Japan, through JICA, committed itself to funding an agreed Fisheries Master Plan with the following components:

1. Pelagic fisheries development and management
2. Aquaculture development
3. Regional fisheries database development
4. Participatory approaches to management (including sedentary resource management)
5. Education and training (in the above-mentioned components)



Japanese Mission, CARICOM and CRFM delegations

¹. The CRFM is the successor organization of the CFU/CFRAMP

The Fisheries Master Plan was discussed and finalized during the period August 31 - September 26, 2003. It envisages a two-year Pilot, followed by an eight-year project commitment. In August 2004, at the CARICOM - Japan Cooperation Agreement Meeting, the Japanese further agreed that:

- The CARICOM Secretariat and JICA will prepare (through legal advice) the legal framework agreement to implement the Master Plan.
- The CARICOM Secretariat is to be the executing agency and the CRFM Secretariat will be the implementing agency for the project.

A JICA Study Team visited the Caribbean in March 2005 to put in place arrangements for implementation (hopefully) by August / September 2005. This team met with Directors of Fisheries / Chief Fisheries Officers at a meeting on March 4, 2005, Georgetown, Guyana and conducted a series of field visits in targeted CRFM Member States.

2.1.4 Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Area Management: FAO / TCP

A Letter of Agreement was signed with FAO, Rome, to finance from TCP funds desk studies of *fisheries and integrated coastal area management* in selected CARICOM countries. A comparative Study Tour by Fisheries Departments' staff, to Malaysia and the Philippines, and seven country specific case studies (Belize, Dominica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, Jamaica and Barbados) on the state of coastal zone and fisheries / aquatic resources management were undertaken.

A workshop to discuss the findings of the Study Tour, the seven country specific case studies and exchange experiences (Caribbean / Southeast Asia) will be held in June 2005, in Trinidad and Tobago.

2.1.5 Rehabilitation and Management Queen Conch in the CARICOM/ CARIFORUM Region – FAO / NOAA / USAID

In respect of the *Queen Conch*, a regional project proposal was submitted to the FAO and the USAID for funding taking on board the past work of CFRAMP and other organizations on Queen Conch in the Region, the collaboration of the stakeholders and funding agencies such as the DFID, the role of the FAO / WECAFC and the CFMC.

Funding support was received from NOAA for a Queen Conch survey in the Dominican Republic. The implementation of this activity was expected to commence in March 2005. NOAA has advised of additional funding for the Dominican Republic to undertake other Queen Conch activities.



Processing of Queen Conch (Strombus gigas)

2.1.6 Large Marine Ecosystems (LME) Project

This is the largest fisheries project to be initiated in the region since the CFRAMP. The overall objective of the project is:

Sustainable management of the shared living marine resources of the Caribbean LME and

adjacent areas through an integrated management approach that will meet the WSSD target for sustainable fisheries.

The CRFM Secretariat has been positioning itself to coordinate the implementation of the project in CRFM Member States and to be part of the Project Steering Committee. In this regard, CRFM Member States have been written to, seeking their support, through the national GEF focal points, for the CRFM Secretariat to coordinate the implementation of the Caribbean node of the LME project.

2.1.7 Common Fisheries Policy and Regime

The Spanish Government, through the CARICOM Secretariat, funded the Second Meeting of the Working Group on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime held in Guyana, June 9-10, 2004. This meeting set out the main issues to be addressed in a draft Framework Document being compiled, and agreed that conclusions arrived at would be preliminary positions that would need further policy guidance in order to arrive at firm and final consensual positions.

2.1.8 Technical Centre for Agriculture and Rural Cooperation (CTA)- Organizational Needs Assessment of Caribbean Fisherfolk Organizations

Approval was received, through the Caribbean Agriculture and Development Institute (CARDI), from the CTA for funding of an “Organizational Needs Assessment Research of Caribbean Fisherfolk Organizations.” As a consequence, the CRFM Secretariat executed an organizational needs assessment of regional Fisherfolk Organizations, the findings of which were examined at a Regional Workshop of Caribbean Fisherfolk Organizations, October 12 – 14, 2004, Belize City, Belize. With respect to the Way Forward, a problem Working Group was formed to develop a Medium Term Plan to facilitate resource mobilization for institutional strengthening of existing Fisherfolk Organizations, and the formation of a critical mass of umbrella (national) Fisherfolk Organizations that will lead to the development of a Regional Network of National Fisherfolk Organizations. This represents the first phase of the project.



Some of the participants at the Regional Workshop on Caribbean Fisherfolk Organisations, Belize City, Belize

2.1.9 Belize Glover’s Reef Data Collection Project

The main objective of the project was to develop a framework and system for the collection of catch and effort data at Glover’s Reef Atoll by the Marine Resource and Wildlife Conservation Society. This project was successfully discharged by the CRFM Secretariat, through consultancy.

2.1.10 EU – Improving on the National and Regional Mechanisms for Fisheries Management and Development in the Caribbean

The project “Improving on the National and Regional Mechanisms for Fisheries Management and Development in the Caribbean” is being considered for financing by the EU in the amount of Euro 3 million. Caribbean ACP Ambassadors were contacted to use their good offices to advocate funding of the proposal and have expressed their support for this project.



2.1.11 Human Resource Development

The CRFM Secretariat and the International Ocean Institute (IOI), Canada have signed an MOU for joint support of 3 to 5 students from the CARICOM for training on Ocean Governance, May 25th to July 22nd, 2005. Member States have submitted nominations, the CRFM Secretariat has pre-selected potential awardees, and the IOI is considering them. This is the second round of such training.

2.1.12 ACP FISH II Programme

The ACP Fish II Programme seeks to support countries through transition from the historic open-access regime, where the incentive was to harvest fish before others did so, to the emerging regime, where the incentive is to maximize the long-term benefits from fisheries resources.

The overall objective of the Programme is the sustainable and optimal management of fisheries in ACP countries for the benefit of present and future populations, with the specific purpose being to strengthen fisheries sectoral policy development and implementation in ACP countries.

Core funding for the whole ACP Group for ACP Fish II would be Euro 11.5 million. However, the European Commission advised that there might be possible additional funding of specific regional projects that relate well to the ACP Fish II project. Based on these discussions and subsequent advice from the SIFAR / FAO Coordinator, a Concept Note: *“Improving Regional and National Mechanisms for the Management and Sustainable Development of Shared Fisheries Resources in the Caribbean ACP Countries”*, was prepared and submitted to the SIFAR / FAO for consideration. The proposed project was budgeted at approximately US\$3 million.

2.2 Member States Human Resource Mobilization

The CRFM Secretariat supports the delivery of programmes and projects at the national, sub-regional and regional levels to make optimum use of existing in-country skills. The lean staff make-up of the CRFM Secretariat (Belize and St. Vincent & the Grenadines) makes it imperative to utilize in-country skills, particularly Fisheries Departments staff who had benefited from the CFU / CRFM long-term post-graduate scholarships programme. Skills utilization would include attachments for specified periods to the CRFM Secretariat, and stints in other Member States through TCDC arrangements.



3. TOWARDS A COMMON FISHERIES POLICY AND REGIME FOR CARICOM

3.1 Formulation of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime

The Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community, at their Fourteenth Inter-Sessional Meeting held in Trinidad and Tobago, February 14 - 15, 2003, considered and endorsed the proposal from the Government of Barbados on 'the imperative of elaborating a Common Fisheries Regime' and mandated the CARICOM Secretariat to undertake the necessary consultations and propose a framework for consideration at the Twenty-fourth Meeting in July 2003.

The Caribbean Fisheries Forum, at its first meeting in Belize on March 27, 2003, acknowledged that the Mandate of the Heads of Governments demonstrated the highest level of commitment to the management and conservation of the region's fisheries resources. As such, it was determined that the Caribbean Fisheries Forum, being the regional fisheries body established by CARICOM, would form a Working Group, to implement the Mandate of the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM and report to them through the Ministerial Council. The Working Group held its first meeting in Trinidad and Tobago, June 5 - 6, 2003.

The Conference Heads of Government of CARICOM, at their Fifteenth Inter-Sessional Meeting in St. Kitts and Nevis in March 2004, decided that the elaboration of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime would be independent and separate from and without prejudice to the settlement of maritime boundary disputes between and among Member States and Third Parties. Additionally, they reaffirmed the continuation of the Mandate for a framework for the exploitation and conservation of the regions fisheries resources, and considered and approved the Working Group's Plan of Action for the establishment of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime.

In keeping with the reaffirmation given by the Heads of Government and the approval of the Working Group's Plan of Action for the establishment of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, the CRFM Secretariat, in collaboration with the CARICOM Secretariat, convened the Second and Third Meetings of the Working Group on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime in Guyana, June 9 - 10, 2004, and in St. Vincent and the Grenadines, November 29 - 30, 2004 respectively.

The Second Meeting of the Working Group set out the key issues in the format of a draft Framework for a Regional Fisheries Policy and Regime with a view to highlighting matters that needed to be addressed. Matters included in the draft Framework for a Regional Fisheries Policy and Regime are the vision, goal, objectives, the fundamental principles of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, policies with respect to access to fisheries resources, the concepts of fishing zones, maritime jurisdiction/delimitations and management of the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime. The Member States accepted that the establishment of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime was a work in progress requiring policy guidance in many areas, and as such the framework document did not purport to provide agreed or settled positions.

At the Third Meeting of the Working Group, discussion papers on the Role of a Regional Fisheries Management Organisation (RFMO) and the Implementing Mechanism for the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime were presented. Further, Member States updated the Meeting on the status of their National Consultations on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime. The Third Meeting of the Working Group highlighted the need for the consideration of socio-economic and linkage issues in discussions on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime. It was further decided, *inter alia*;

- (i) that a study to review and elaborate on these issues would be undertaken by a team of resource persons drawn from the Fisheries Department of Trinidad & Tobago, UWI-CERMES, OECS-ESDU and the CRFM Secretariat;



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- (ii) national consultations on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime will be concluded and the outputs/comments of such consultations sent to the CRFM Secretariat by February 28, 2005;
 - (iii) the CARICOM Secretariat will be asked to present a progress report on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime to the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Heads of Government of CARICOM in February 2005;
 - (iv) the Regional Multidisciplinary Meeting on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime will be postponed to April 2005; and
 - (v) a report on the draft Framework Document on the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime will be presented to the Conference of Heads of Government of CARICOM in July 2005.



4. CORPORATE SERVICES PROGRAMME

4.1 *Draft CRFM Operations Manual*

Work commenced in-house on the preparation of the draft CRFM Operations Manual. Assistance is being sought from external donor sources (technical assistance and finance) to complete this undertaking.

4.2 *Financial Audit*

The Financial Audit of the Second (January 2000 to December 2003) and Third (February 16, 2004 to April 30, 2004) Work Programmes of the ICRAFD Programme were completed by the Auditors, Deloitte, Belize.

Member States' contributions and all other (donor) contributions to the CRFM Secretariat for the programme year April 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005 were also audited by Deloitte, Belize – See **Annex I** for Audit Report.

5. ADVOCACY, POLICY AND PLANNING

5.1: ADVOCACY: CRFM Newsletters

The CRFM News is being redesigned to cater for more input from the Member States. Towards that end the CRFM Secretariat invited articles from fisheries administrative personnel across the region.

The output will give prominent coverage to issues relating to the on-going development of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the Region, the development of a Medium-Term Action Plan for strengthening the region's fisherfolk organizations, various fisheries development and management activities, including assessment of the status of the fisheries in the region and outputs of scientific workshops. Under research and technology, pertinent issues on the ICCAT, other fishery management organizations, stock assessment and sociological features of fishing communities in Member States will be covered.



Issue #3 of the Biannual Newsletter of the CRFM

5.2: PLANNING: Annual Work Planning and Reporting: Coordinating and Monitoring

Guidance was provided to staff for the drafting of the 2005 – 2006 Work Plan and on the preparation of project proposals for resource mobilization.

6. FISHERIES DATA MANAGEMENT (STATISTICS AND FISHERIES DATA MANAGEMENT)

6.1 *CRFM – Caribbean Fisheries Information System (CARIFIS)*

The Trip Interview Programme (TIP) and Licensing and Registration System (LRS) software provided standardized fisheries data storage and retrieval systems for most CRFM Member States prior to 2001. During 2001 – 2003 a Consultant, with assistance from a Working Group made up of representatives of the Member States, OECS- NRMU (now OECS – ESDU) and the CFU (now the CRFM Secretariat), developed an upgraded Windows version of TIP and LRS. In the upgraded version named CARIFIS (Caribbean Fisheries Information System), TIP and LRS have been combined, with additional fields / sections and reporting features included, in keeping with the data storage and reporting needs of Member States.

In 2003, the CFU in collaboration with the FAO, organized and convened a Regional Fisheries Statistics and Data Management Workshop, from March 10 to 22, 2003, in Barbados. The Workshop included training in sample based fisheries survey methods, use of the new CARIFIS Database Programme, and training in the collection and analysis of social and economic data. Workshop participants, including Data Entry Operators, Data Managers, Fisheries Officers and Chief Fisheries Officers, were drawn from the CRFM Member States and the Dominican Republic. At the Workshop, the participants made recommendations for the continued development and use of the CARIFIS programme in the Member States, setting January 21, 2004 as the start up date.

In keeping with the recommendations from the 2003 Workshop, and based on requests by Member States, the CRFM Secretariat provided computers to Barbados, Belize, The Bahamas, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Jamaica, Haiti, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Montserrat, Trinidad and Tobago, and Suriname; provided assistance to St. Lucia, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Barbados on the transfer of their legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS, and to Trinidad and Tobago on the transfer of the legacy database from LRS to CARIFIS; assisted The Bahamas in the operationalising of their CARIFIS system, and provided training on CARIFIS to Dominica, Grenada, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, and the Turks and Caicos Islands.

Achievements

Despite problems faced in terms of staffing, progress was made in the process of transferring legacy databases from TIP and LRS to CARIFIS and a number of Member States benefited from training sessions and technical advice.



7. FISHERIES RESEARCH AND RESOURCE ASSESSMENT

7.1: Annual Scientific Meeting and Working Groups Operations

During programme year 2004-05, the CRFM held its First Annual Scientific Meeting, which was essentially a joint meeting of the five (5) CRFM Fisheries Resource Working Groups which were established by the Caribbean Fisheries Forum. The Resource Working Groups are expected to conduct data analysis, research and assessment, and to make recommendations for management of those fisheries targeting the following range of fishery resources: large pelagic; small coastal pelagic; reef and slope; shrimp and groundfish; and conch and lobster.

Besides the focused tasks of the Resource Working Groups, other aspects of fisheries management require research inputs to inform their planning and implementation. During 2004-05, the following areas received attention: (i) development and implementation of mechanisms for the management of shared resources, and (ii) assessment of potential for developing or expanding large pelagic fisheries. In addition, prior CFU/CRFM Secretariat's performance in respect of representation and participation in regional and international management fora, has shown clearly the benefits obtained by the inclusion, in such representation and participation, of individuals with expertise and knowledge in research, resource assessment and the application of these to the formulation of management strategies. For this reason, an activity that facilitates the provision of technical support at regional and international management fora was also included in this section of the 2004-05 work programme.

7.2: Development and Implementation of Mechanisms for the Management of Shared Resources

The research component of this project was intended to include the following activities during programme year 2004-2005:

- (i) Identify the range of shared fisheries resources and the relevant countries that share them.
- (ii) Identify existing and potential extra-regional competent organizations.
- (iii) Document and present detailed information on fisheries resources under the management control, obligations of Member States (e.g., membership fees etc.).
- (iv) Recommend strategies for effective participation, such as regional membership versus individual member state membership and mechanism(s) for regional consensus on specific issues.
- (v) Analyze implications for the management and development of national fisheries including international fishing tournaments and recreational fisheries.
- (vi) Convene meetings to evaluate the status and management needs of the relevant fisheries.

The research tasks of this activity were subsumed under those devoted to the development of a Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the CARICOM region. Additionally, the Research and Resource Assessment Programme prepared a paper titled '(a) *An overview of a regional fishery body, with emphasis on the type serving as a regional fishery management organization*; and (b) *A preliminary examination of the issues pertaining to establishment of a regional fishery management organization (RFMO) within the Caribbean region*'. This paper essentially provided technical background on the mandate, structure and role of Regional Fishery Management Organizations, and examined the need for this type of organization in the Caribbean region. The types of shared resources that should be a primary concern to a Caribbean RFMO, as well as the relation of RFMO

operations to implementation of CARICOM's Common Fisheries Policy and Regime, were addressed in the paper. The first draft of the paper was updated in December 2004 and again in April 2005, primarily to take into account reviewers' comments on, and the development of selected issues.

7.3: Provision of Technical Support at Regional and International Management Fora (e.g. ICCAT, FAO, CITES)

This activity was intended to undertake the following during 2004-05:

- (i) Sensitization of Member States of the CRFM of the consequences of inaction in respect of cooperation with regional and international fisheries management organizations, and determine their willingness to take part in co-operative management.
- (ii) Facilitation of effective participation and representation in relevant regional and international fisheries assessment and management activities.

During 2004-05, the CRFM Secretariat collaborated with countries dealing with specific management issues arising at ICCAT, and provided technical and legal support, particularly assisting countries to prepare contributions for the annual ICCAT SCRS and Commission meetings. This involved review of national statistics reported to ICCAT, and national reports submitted to the SCRS by those CRFM Member States, which are Contracting or Cooperating Parties to ICCAT and also the two States with large, open registries. The CRFM Secretariat prepared an annual report to the SCRS, on behalf of the remaining CRFM Member States. The Secretariat participated in ICCAT's annual scientific SCRS and Commission meetings, and provided technical and legal expertise for developing and presenting positions at the ICCAT Commission Meeting in November 2004.

7.4: Assess Potential for Developing or Expanding Large Pelagic Fisheries (donor funded)

This activity is intended to develop national and regional knowledge of offshore pelagic and other under-utilized resources, to ensure responsible and successful sustainable development and management of the relevant fisheries, while also increasing development and employment opportunities within the sector.

The CRFM Secretariat met and held further discussions with a team of fisheries experts dispatched by JICA to work out additional details regarding the project's aims and activities. An updated agreement between the CRFM Secretariat and JICA was signed. Additionally, the CRFM Secretariat coordinated a meeting of the JICA team with Fisheries Directors, to consolidate the region's interest in the project and emphasize the role of the Secretariat in overseeing project implementation. The JICA Team also visited selected countries to gather additional, updated information to facilitate project planning and preparation.

7.5: Regional Network Partnership (donor-funded)

This activity was designed to promote the setting up and development of a network of relationships between the CRFM Secretariat and those organizations, bodies and institutions whose work and interests coincide with that of the CRFM Secretariat.

Collaboration with partner institutions and bodies was informal. Representatives from the University of the West Indies (UWI), FAO, NMFS SEFC, and Cuba, participated in the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting, held in June 2004. Offers to co-host the first meeting of the CRFM Ad Hoc Working Group on Methods were received from NMFS SEFC and UWI.



7.6: CRFM Large Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM LPWG)

The CRFM Secretariat coordinates the activities of this Working Group which include: (i) the recording, reporting, and storage of the relevant fisheries statistics, (ii) research, (iii) large pelagic stock assessment analyses and preparation of associated reports, (iv) development of management advice and preparation of fishery advisory reports, (iv) reporting of fisheries statistics to ICCAT for stocks managed by ICCAT, and handling of other ICCAT issues, as determined by CRFM countries.

This working group met jointly with other CRFM resource working groups at the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting, to review and analyse available data, conduct stock assessments, and develop management recommendations. During 2004 -05, the LPWG examined available data on wahoo and Spanish mackerel. In view of limited human and financial resources, it was not possible to conduct any additional assessments of large pelagic species.

In the case of wahoo, there is also need to take the assessment results to ICCAT, given that several countries are currently considering the need for an assessment of wahoo in the wider Atlantic region. The need to involve other non-CRFM countries which harvest the resource in assessment of the stock was evident. The commitment of CRFM countries in the timely preparation and submission of data is a necessity for the collaborative approach to assessment and management proposed, and to ensure that a more complete assessment could be conducted in the near future.

In the case of the Spanish mackerel fishery, it was difficult to predict the current status of the stock, as the data were sensitive to the assumptions used in the analysis. However, the assessment results do suggest that there is not much room for an increase in current levels of exploitation.

7.6.1: CRFM Small Coastal Pelagic Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SCPWG)

This Working Group has similar objectives to those of the CRFM LPWG, and during 2004-05, an on-site meeting was held during the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting. Data on the following fisheries of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada were analysed: bigeye scad, mackerel scad, and round scad. The status of each of the three scad fisheries examined remains undetermined, as it was not possible to complete quantitative assessments with the available data. In view of the importance of these fisheries to local food security in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Grenada, and consistent with international law, a precautionary approach to management is warranted. This could entail a limitation of fishing effort to present levels or, if not practical, at least controlled and cautious expansion of fishing effort, until the status of the resources could be evaluated with confidence. Additionally, the Fisheries Divisions should maintain accurate records of fishing licences issued for this fishery, as well as seek to improve statistical monitoring of the fishery as outlined in the subsequent sections of this report.

7.6.2: CRFM Shrimp and Groundfish Fisheries Working Group (CRFM SGWG)

This Working Group has similar objectives to those of the CRFM LPWG, and during 2004-05, an on-site meeting was held during the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting.

The Meeting examined data and conducted assessments of the following fisheries: southern pink shrimp and Atlantic seabob fisheries of Trinidad and Tobago. No assessments of groundfish fisheries

were completed this year. There was concern regarding the management of the shrimp stocks since they are shared by other countries such as Venezuela. The assessment performed by the Working Group focused on two species for which Venezuela lacks data, mainly because these species are not as commercially important to Venezuela.

Overall, all evidence suggests full to over exploitation of the two shrimp stocks assessed. In addition, some trawlers tend to capture very young, small shrimp, especially the artisanal fleet operating in the southern Gulf of Paria, and the semi-industrial fleet.

Based on a yield per recruit model for the two species combined, the current (year 2002) fishing effort of the trawl fleets directed at these species is estimated to be about 71% of the effort required to obtain the maximum yield from the fishery. This indicates close to full exploitation.

Biomass per recruit models developed for the females of each of the two species separately suggests that the pink shrimp stock is fully exploited and the Atlantic seabob stock is overexploited. At the current level of effort, the biomass of pink shrimp remaining in the sea is estimated to be 39% of the unexploited biomass of this species, which is just about at the limit reference point of 40%. At the current effort, the biomass of Atlantic seabob is 22% of the unexploited biomass of the species, i.e. below the limit reference point. The effort exerted on this species would have to be reduced to less than 60% of the current level in order to bring the biomass up to an acceptable level (i.e. 40% of the unexploited biomass).

These results on the current state of the fishery in terms of level of exploitation and the spawning stock biomass are considered preliminary due to the limitations of the data and the models used.

Although preliminary, the results obtained from the current assessments indicate poor exploitation patterns by some gears and are generally consistent with results obtained from previous assessments of the trawl fishery. A precautionary approach should therefore be applied to the management of the trawl fishery based on the best scientific evidence available, consistent with international law.

The recommendation is therefore to control the fishing effort and gear types to improve selectivity and exploitation rates for these stocks. At the very least, effort should be controlled by limiting the numbers of trawlers with a view to reduction in fleet size. This will require the implementation of a licensing system for trawlers and updating of the fisheries legislation to facilitate a limited entry fishery. In the absence of the appropriate legislation, a Cabinet decision was taken in 1988 to prohibit the entry of new artisanal as well as non-artisanal trawlers into the fishery. This has been enforced only to some extent for the industrial fleet. In addition, the managers must look at ways of controlling gear selectivity with a view to focusing mortality on larger shrimp and, where this is not possible, decrease mortality on small shrimp in the longer term. This can be done through the implementation of closed areas / seasons to protect young and spawning shrimp, as well as increased mesh sizes to target larger shrimp.

A management regime is currently in place for the trawl fishery involving areas of operation and minimum mesh size. Trawling is subject to a zoning regime in the Gulf of Paria, according to trawler type, and areas where trawling is permitted and prohibited on the other coasts are also specified. These were implemented largely to reduce conflict among the various trawler fleets, as well as between trawlers and vessels employing other gears. However, if strictly enforced, the regulations should also help the sustainability of the stocks.

It should be noted that the management objectives for this fishery outlined in the policy document and management plan are very broad. It is strongly recommended that managers set appropriate and



specific reference points for the fishery, that is, constraints within which the fishery must operate. Key issues are how the fishery will be monitored and how and what controls can be applied to affect the performance. This should be addressed through discussions among all stakeholders. The reference points need not necessarily be complex measures, but could be estimated for simple controls which can be routinely collected easily. This may mean further length frequency sampling of shrimp is not necessary, but may still be desirable for accurate assessment and monitoring. The performance or state of the fishery (in terms of level of exploitation or spawning stock biomass for example) is estimated by analyzing data collected using appropriate assessment models. The management would then implement fishery controls to maintain the fishery state at the desired level in relation to the reference point. A clear link would therefore exist between the assessment and management actions.

7.6.3: CRFM Reef and Slope Fisheries Working Group (CRFM RSWG)

This Working Group has similar objectives to those of the CRFM LPWG, and during 2004-05, an on-site meeting was held during the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting. The only reef fishery data examined by the RSWG in 2004 were from the red hind fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. Earlier fishery evaluation exercises have presented evidence that suggests that the red hind fishery of St. Vincent and the Grenadines may be fully or over-exploited. A quantitative assessment of the fishery was not completed during the 2004 meeting, owing to time constraints as well as constraints in the available data. However, concern was expressed that the reasons for decline in landings between 2001 and 2003 be investigated and recommendations made to correct the situation.

7.6.4 Proposal: Rehabilitation and Management of Queen Conch

A proposal was prepared by the CRFM Secretariat with the above title for funding by the FAO. Unofficial reaction from the FAO indicated that certain elements of the proposal needed to be changed or modified. Examples are the level of funding available, the unavailability of funding for OCT countries, and questions being raised on some aspects of the proposal itself.

It was agreed to strengthen some aspects of the proposal to satisfy the demands of the FAO and to prepare separate proposals for the OCT countries. By the end of the fiscal year, a new proposal had been prepared for submissions to the FAO through the CARICOM Secretariat, another one seeking alternate funding from USAID was also prepared and submitted. The OCT countries could also be benefiting from separate proposals submitted to DFID and NOAA and sources from the Metropolitan nations who govern the OCT countries.

7.6.5: CRFM Conch and Lobster Fisheries Working Group (CRFM CLWG) Priority 1

This Working Group has similar objectives to those of the CRFM LPWG, and during 2004-05, an on-site meeting was held at the First Annual CRFM Scientific Meeting. Given that countries' submissions of data on queen conch were limited and late, and that there were insufficient persons to analyse the available data, no assessments of queen conch were completed during this year's meeting.

Data on the spiny lobster fisheries of Belize, The Bahamas, and The Turks and Caicos were analysed by the Working Group in 2004.

Belize – The spiny lobster stock in Belize appears to be heavily exploited. This is suggested by the relatively high fishing mortality estimated for this fishery. However, it is suspected that this may only

apply to a proportion of the stock and therefore the overall state of the stock remains uncertain. There is no specific management advice at this time. Further development of policy and management questions, such as the value or potential harm of the use of shades or casitas could be answered using the current model.

The Bahamas - The current status of the stock has not been clearly identified. The current assessment suggests the stock is probably being fully exploited. There needs to be significant improvements in catch and effort monitoring and in taking biological samples to allow reliable status determination. In particular, additional data should be obtained from sampling fishing trips.

Turks and Caicos - The stock does not appear to be overfished and indications are that current catches are sustainable. However, it is likely that the fishery is not maintained at a level to maximise profitability. Without clear management objectives, it is not possible to provide specific advice. There is no evidence of a long-term decline in recruitment, and therefore the stock does not appear immediately threatened. No specific conservation action is recommended. It is important for management to identify target and limit reference points on which scientific advice can be based. This would allow development of more specific and useful advice on what management needs to do to achieve objectives.

8. FISHERIES RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT

8.1: Development and Implementation of Fisheries Management Plans (FMPs)

The formulation and implementation of appropriate fisheries sector policies and developmental and managerial strategies and plans are complex and multifaceted, with the critical inputs revolving primarily around political commitment, institutional capacity and effective stakeholder participation.

Based on a timeframe that takes about six to twelve months to update a Fisheries Management Plan, through national consultations with stakeholders, and obtain approval from the relevant political authorities, the CRFM Secretariat has been working with a number of Member States to update and implement their Fisheries Management Plans. During the programme years 2003/04 and 2004/05, the CRFM Secretariat assisted The Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands, the Dominican Republic, Haiti, Belize, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana, and Antigua and Barbuda in the updating of their FMPs. Also, the Secretariat provided assistance to The Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands, Dominican Republic and Haiti in the organising and conducting of their National Consultations on their FMPs, and in the preparation of the Consultation Reports and refining of their FMPs. The Secretariat will continue to work with the countries mentioned above, as well as work with Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia and Suriname in the updating and implementation of their FMPs.

8.2: (a) Programme for Strengthening Fisheries Management in ACP countries (ACP Fish II)

(b) Improving on the National and Regional Mechanisms / Systems for Fisheries Management and Development in the Caribbean

The ACP Fish II Programme seeks to support countries through transition from the historic open-access regime, where the incentive was to harvest fish before others did so, to the now emerging regime, where the incentive is to maximize the long-term benefits from fisheries resources.

In keeping with the consultative approach in conducting the feasibility study for the ACP Fish II Programme, the ACP Fish II Consultative Workshop for the CARIFORUM Countries was held in Jamaica, from August 20 to 21, 2003. The purpose of this Consultation was to discuss the objectives of the ACP Fish II Programme; types of activities that will be undertaken; relative emphasis to be placed on the different activities and the arrangements for implementation. The Draft Workshop Report, and subsequently the Project Proposal: *Improving on the National and Regional Mechanisms / Systems for Fisheries Management and Development in the Caribbean*, were prepared and submitted to SIFAR / FAO.

The Programme Manager, Fisheries Management and Development, represented the CRFM at the Final ACP Fish II Feasibility Study Workshop, Rome, Italy, December 3–4, 2003. The purpose of the Workshop was to review and discuss important features of the Draft Fish II Feasibility Study prior to its finalization to the EU. Based on the discussions, the overall objective of the Programme was determined to be the sustainable and optimal management of fisheries in ACP countries for the benefit of present and future populations, with the specific purpose being to strengthen fisheries sectoral policy development and implementation in ACP countries.

During these discussions, it was indicated that the core funding for the whole ACP Group for ACP Fish II would be Euro 11.5 million. However, the European Commission had mentioned that there

might be possible additional funding of specific regional projects that relate well to the ACP Fish II project. Based on these discussions and subsequent advice from the SIFAR / FAO Coordinator, a Concept Note: “*Improving Regional and National Mechanisms for the Management and Sustainable Development of Shared Fisheries Resources in the Caribbean ACP Countries*”, was prepared and submitted to the SIFAR / FAO for consideration. The proposed project was budgeted at approximately US\$3 million.

To date, the CRFM Secretariat has not received any formal notification on the status of these proposals from the EU. However, during the presence of the Deputy Executive Director (Ag) at the ACPEU Fisheries Relations Seminar: Maximising Socio-Economic Benefits for the ACP Fisheries Communities, from December 13 to 14, 2004, in Brussels, Belgium, he, with the assistance of Trinidad and Tobago’s Ambassador, H.E. Learie Rousseau, was able to meet and brief the Eastern Caribbean States’ Minister Counsellor, Dr. Arnold N. Thomas, and Barbados’s First Secretary, Ms. Joy-Ann Skinner, on the CRFM Projects that had been submitted to the EU for funding and solicited their assistance in following up with the relevant authorities on the status of these and other projects submitted to the EU.

8.3: CRFM / JICA PROJECT FORMULATION SESSIONS

The CARICOM Secretariat entered into an agreement with the Government of Japan through its international development agency, JICA, to plan and execute a regional program involving the formulation of a Master Plan for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and Management, with the CRFM Secretariat being the Implementing Agency.

As part of the planning and preparatory process, a Team of JICA officials and Consultants met the Technical staff of the CRFM Secretariat in Belize, 6 – 13 March and 27 – 31 March, to discuss the framework for the Development Study. At the end of the discussions the JICA Team leader and the Executive Director of the CRFM Secretariat signed the Minutes of the Meeting.



Minutes of the Meeting between JICA and the CRFM Secretariat being signed in Belize, 2004.

8.3.1: CRFM / JICA Project to formulate a Master Plan on Sustainable Use of Fisheries Resources for Coastal Community Development in the Caribbean

Three technical cooperation project proposals (Promotion of the Expansion of the Pelagic Fishery and Other Un-utilised Resources; Development and Promotion of Aquaculture and Mariculture in the Caribbean; and the Establishment of a Regional Database) were submitted for funding consideration by the CRFM Secretariat through diplomatic channels to the Government of Japan. Following these, JICA dispatched a Project Formulation Study Team, in the latter half of 2003 to conduct a fisheries sector analysis and to propose the direction for Japan’s assistance in the fisheries sector of CARICOM. Based on the country visits and discussions with the CRFM Secretariat and the Belize Fisheries Department Team, the Government of Japan/JICA Team recommended that Japan’s Offi-



cial Development Assistance for the fisheries sector in CARICOM region should focus on sustainable development and diversification of fisheries that would lead to economic progress and improved quality of life of the people of the CARICOM countries.

The Study Team, suggested that the three projects proposed by the CRFM Secretariat should be modified and compiled into one Development Study, with the goal being to contribute to the sustainable utilisation of fishery resources in the CARICOM region. At the CARICOM – Japan Cooperation Agreement – Tenth Consultation Meeting in August 2004, the Meeting was advised by the Japanese Delegation that the revised proposal had been approved for funding.

Based on approval and in response to the official request of the CRFM Secretariat, The Government of Japan / JICA dispatched a Preparatory Study Team, headed by Mr. Juichiro Sasaki, to the region from February 27 to March 31 to collaborate with their CRFM Secretariat counterpart to review and refine the Project Proposal for Formulation of a Master Plan for Fisheries and Aquaculture Development and Management in the Caribbean. During their visit to the Caribbean, the Team had a joint meeting with CARICOM Directors of Fisheries/Chief Fisheries Officers on March 4 in Guyana, undertook field missions to Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Belize, Barbados, St. Lucia, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, where they met with government officials and other representatives of stakeholder groups, and held discussions with the CRFM Secretariat in Belize on the refinement of the Project Proposal.

The discussions between the CRFM Secretariat and the JICA Teams were centred around the framework of the Development Study; title of the Study; objectives of the Study; Study Area; Scope of the Study (Pelagic Fisheries Development and Management Component, Aquaculture Development Component, Regional Fisheries Database Component, Participatory Approaches to Management Component, and Education and Training Component); Study schedule; expected major outputs of the Study; role of counterpart agency (CRFM Secretariat); training programmes during the conduct of the Study; reporting and finalisation of the Scope of Work.

At the conclusion of the discussions with the CRFM Secretariat, the Executive Director, Mr. Hugh Saul, and the JICA Team Leader, Mr. Juichiro Sasaki, signed the Minutes of the Meetings on the Preparatory Study on the Project. Copies of the plan and the time schedule for implementation of the Development Study, have since been circulated to the Member States for their review and approval.

8.4: CRFM/FAO Community-based Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Zone Management Project

During the programme year 2003/04, the CRFM Secretariat requested FAO's assistance in undertaking a comparative study on the use of demographic indicators in coastal area and fisheries management in countries of Southeast Asia, i.e. Malaysia and the Philippines, which are more advanced in this respect, in order to learn from their experiences. It was proposed that the comparative study should be followed by country specific case studies to be undertaken in selected Caribbean countries, i.e. Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Barbados, Trinidad and Tobago and the Turks and Caicos Islands, which would identify ways and means as to how demographic concerns can be incorporated in the on-going coastal zone management programmes. It was also suggested that the country-specific case studies could also draw on the findings and complement the project titled "Interdisciplinary research and coastal areas management in the Caribbean – balancing people and resources", which was being implemented in close collaboration with the CRFM Secretariat, with



Participants at the Regional Workshop on the Collection of Demographic Information on Coastal Fishing Communities and its Use in Community Based Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Zone Management in the Caribbean, Trinidad and Tobago, June 13 - 17, 2005

funding and technical support from the Canadian International Research Centre (IRDC) and others.

The comparative study tour to Malaysia and the Philippines, involving representatives from The Bahamas, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the CRFM Secretariat, took place during August 2004, with the objectives being:

- To examine and determine how socio-economic and demographic information is used by fisheries and other government administration and the fisher associations in the preparation of management and development plans as well as in monitoring the impact of these plans and programmes on fishers and their families.
- To study and determine how the socio-economic well-being of fishers and their families is improved through special projects, which are implemented in the context of fisheries and coastal management and development.

Country specific case studies to identify ways and means as to how demographic concerns could be incorporated in the on-going coastal zone management programmes were completed for Belize, Dominica, St. Lucia, Trinidad and Tobago and the Turks and Caicos Islands, with those for Barbados and Jamaica still to be finalized.

During 2005/06, as a follow-up to the CRFM/FAO Fisheries Integrated Management Project, a Regional Workshop will be held to review the findings of the comparative study and the country-specific case studies and elaborate specific recommendations on how to proceed further in the Caribbean with the use of socio-economic and demographic indicators in Community-based Fisheries and Integrated Coastal Zone Management.



Fishing Vessels involved in Trade of Fish and Fishery Products.

8.5: Study of the Impact of Globalization on Fisheries

Based on the information gathered from a desk study, a detailed Terms of Reference for a consultancy on “Review the Effects of Liberalization and Trade-Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures Required for their Sustainable Development in the CARIFORUM/CARICOM Region” was prepared by the CRFM Secretariat. The objectives of the Consultancy were to review the situation regarding globalization and identify the critical issues that could affect the development of the fisheries sector in the CARIFORUM/CARICOM Region, as well as restrict the Region’s ability to influence current trade negotiations and its opportunities to benefit from the resulting trade liberalization agreements; to improve understanding of the economic, environmental and social effects of trade liberalization and trade-related policies, and to recommend trade policy reforms in order to contribute to sustainable fisheries management and development in the region. Furthermore, it was to define a strategy and



prepare a project proposal to address the issues that could hinder development of the fisheries sector, as well as restrict the region's ability to influence current trade negotiations and identify the opportunities to benefit from the resulting trade liberalization agreements.

This Consultancy was implemented during 2004/2005, and the output was a two-part report, namely, *The Effects of Liberalization and Trade Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures Required for their Sustainable Development in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region (Part A)* and, *The Effects of Liberalization and Trade Related Policies on Fisheries and Measures Required for their Sustainable Development in the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region – Country Profiles (Part B)*.

These Reports will soon be circulated to Member States for review and comments.

8.6: CTA / CARDI / CRFM POST RESEARCH AND WORKSHOP ACTIVITIES

One of the major outputs of the feedback Workshop on the findings of the Organizational Needs Assessment of National Fisher folk Organizations of the Caribbean held in Belize, October 2004, was the wholesale acceptance of five recommendations of the main report. A five member Pro Tem Working Group, made up of Belize, Jamaica, Antigua and Barbuda, Trinidad and Tobago, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines, was formed to initially examine these recommendations and to develop a short-to-medium Term Action Plan, including strategies and projects to be implemented.

A proposal for the funding of the first meeting of the Pro tem Working Group has been submitted to CTA for funding. The proposal covers **Draft Terms of Reference** for the Pro Tem Working Group, a **Draft Mode of Operation** for the Group and a list of Strategies, including Project Profiles, namely:

- Strategy 1 of the Medium Term Action Plan: Formation and Strengthening of New Fisher folk organizations for creating the Critical Mass for the Regional Network.
- Strategy 2 of Medium Term Action Plan: Creation and Expansion of Membership of the Caribbean Network of National Fisher folk organizations.
- Strategy 3 of Medium Term Action Plan: Regional and Extra-Regional Expansion of the Network.
- Strategy 4 of Medium Term Action Plan: Organizational Review, Restructuring and Stabilizing of the Network.

These are to be the subjects of discussion, and debate at the first meeting of the Pro Tem Working Group in Barbados in May 2005. Out of this will emerge, a Draft Medium Term Action Plan to be presented to the Member States of the CRFM for modification and/or approval. The next step is for the CRFM to seek resources for funding the implementation of the projects.

Meanwhile a major project proposal, combining Strategies one and two entitled: Formation and Launch of a Caribbean Network of Fisher folk Organizations has been submitted to CTA for preliminary consideration.

8.7 FAO Country Studies under CRFM / FAO Fisheries Integrated Management Project

This project funded by FAO involved two components dealing with the integration of socio-economic and demographic variables in coastal zone management. The first was the comparative analysis of this phenomenon in South East Asia (Malaysia and the Philippines). The second was country studies conducted by selected Fisheries personnel in Belize, Dominica, Jamaica, St. Lucia, Barba-

dos, Trinidad & Tobago, and Turks and Caicos Islands. The CRFM Secretariat edited the latter on behalf of the FAO. All except Jamaica and Barbados failed to submit their work before the closing data of 31 March 2004. All attempts to encourage and persuade them to submit their reports have failed.

8.8 IDRC / CBCRM Programme

The CRFM Secretariat was charged with overseeing and disbursing funds for the following projects:

- Capacity Building for the Sarteneja Community, Belize by Programme for Belize, Project Leader: Herbert Haylock.
- Exploring Spirituality, Income generation and the Use of Coastal Resources Among the Garifuna of Southern Belize. UWI School of Continuing Studies. Leader, Dr. Joseph O. Palacio.
- Promotion of Management of Marine Protected Areas through Community Groups and Stakeholder Participation, Fisheries Division, Dominica.
- Perspectives of Communal Co-Management & Integration of the Users of the fisheries of the Conch (*Strombus gigas*) in the Jaragua National Park, Grupo Jaragua, Dominican Republic.
- Fisheries-Based Participatory Research for facilitating Biodiversity Co-management, Grenada. Leader: James Finlay.
- Garifuna Reefs, Characterization of the Ancestral Fishing of the Garinagu People of Amatique Bay.
- Symbolic Territorial Representation of the Kuna Indigenous Community of the Kuna Yala Region, San Blas, Panama. Leader: Camilo Coral.

Funding of the Dominica project was curtailed owing to inadequate performance. Technical staff of the CRFM Secretariat were engaged in monitoring some of these projects. At the close of the project period, individual reports were submitted, edited, compiled into one report and submitted to IDRC, Canada.

8.9: Support for Standards and Related Requirements for Global Trade

The objective of this Project was to review the situation regarding post-harvest handling, processing, quality control and marketing of fish and fish products in CARIFORUM countries, in order to define a strategy and prepare a project proposal for enhancing the regional institutional capability, to meet the requirements necessary to maintain and expand on the trade in fish and fish products locally, regionally and internationally. A Consultant was engaged to undertake the regional review and prepare the proposal. The Consultant visited several countries during November and December 2001 and met with stakeholders in the fisheries sector connected to seafood safety, processing, quality control and marketing and regulation of the sector. A comprehensive draft diagnostic report and a draft project proposal to strengthen regional capacity in fisheries post-harvest issues were prepared by the Consultant.

The Regional Workshop on Post Harvest Handling, Preparation, Processing, Quality Control and Marketing was held in St. Vincent and the Grenadines from June 12 – 14, 2002, to review and finalise the Proposal. The revised project proposal “*Fishery Products Health Conditions in CARICOM/ CARIFORUM Member States and OCT Countries*” was sent to the CARICOM/CARIFORUM Secretariat, Georgetown, Guyana in September 2002, for onward submission to the Commission of the European Union, Brussels for consideration of funding under the Global Financing Proposal of



the 8th EDF available for strengthening of fishery products health condition in the ACP/OCT Countries. This revised proposal was consistent with the directives of the COTED for a regional approach to this Project. The EU did not include the Proposal under the “All ACP/OCT” Project. However, the CRFM Secretariat has been in contact with the EU and the implementing agency for the “All ACP/OCT” Project to see whether we could benefit on a regional basis by participating in the delivery of this Project in the Caribbean area.

8.10: Development and Implementation of a Programme for Enabling and Promoting Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS)

Illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing is a significant problem in all CRFM Member States. Among the growing concerns of these States is their current inability to monitor or control fishing activities in their Exclusive Economic Zones and the apparent high cost of doing so. In many Member States there are poorly developed or maintained systems for monitoring, control and surveillance (MCS) of the maritime zones, to conserve their living marine resources and associated habitats, and as such they need assistance in addressing this situation, so as to reap the potential benefits from appropriate fisheries and marine resource management for their citizens.

There are many influencing factors and global initiatives which have brought the subject of MCS capability to the fore in the international and national fora, including UNCLOS, the Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, Compliance Agreement and IPOA-IUU. As these Conventions, Agreements and Voluntary Instruments come into force and the initiatives gain credibility, so too do the obligations of states to implement those agreements to which they are signatories. MCS, especially for the fisheries sector, is one of the implementing tools to meet these obligations.

In order to assess the situation regarding monitoring, control and surveillance in the fisheries sector of the CARIFORUM/ CARICOM Region and identify the critical issues affecting its (MCS) use as an effective mechanism for fisheries resource management and sustainable development, the CRFM Secretariat contracted a Consultant, Commodore (Retired) Anthony Franklin, in 2004, and implemented the Consultancy: *Review of the current situation on IUU fishing and monitoring, control and surveillance in the fisheries sector of the CARIFORUM / CARICOM Region.*

In fulfillment of the Consultancy, the CRFM Secretariat organized and convened a regional workshop in Guyana of senior fisheries and enforcement personnel from 2 - 3 March 2005, to review the strategy and project proposal, and make recommendations for its finalisation. At the workshop, the Consultant presented the strategy and project proposal, which was then reviewed and discussed by the participants, with recommendations made for its finalisation. As part of the process for the way forward on the finalisation of the Draft Strategy and Proposal, the workshop appointed an Ad Hoc MCS Expert Working Group to assist the Consultant in finalizing the Draft Strategy and Proposal. The Group is comprised of Mr. Andre Kong, Director of Fisheries, Jamaica, and Mr. Peter A. Murray, OECS-ESDU. The Ad Hoc MCS Expert Working Group is scheduled to meet on April 11 - 12, 2005, to finalize the Draft Strategy and Proposal for submission to the Forum.

ANNEX I

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM CARICOM CONTRIBUTION

*Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2005 and 2004
and Statements of Contributions and Expenditures
for the Years Ended March 31, 2005 and 2004 and
Independent Auditors' Report*

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM CARICOM CONTRIBUTION

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Chairman of the Caribbean Fisheries Forum in respect of Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism CARICOM Contributions:

We have audited the accompanying balance sheets as of March 31, 2005 and 2004 of Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) (formerly CARICOM Fisheries Unit CARICOM Contributions) and the related statements of contributions and expenditures arising from transactions of CARICOM CONTRIBUTIONS to the Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism (CRFM) for the years ended March 31, 2005 and 2004. These financial statements are the responsibility of the CRFM's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. An audit includes, examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects the financial position as of March 31, 2005 and 2004 and the statements of contributions and expenditures of funds of CARICOM CONTRIBUTIONS to CRFM for the years ended March 31, 2005 and 2004 (formerly CARICOM Fisheries Unit), in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards.



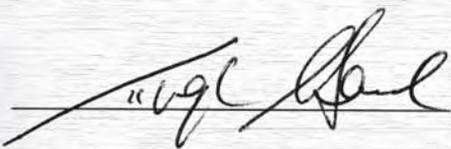
November 9, 2005

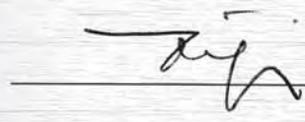
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

BALANCE SHEETS

MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

	<u>Notes</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
<u>ASSETS</u>			
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash and bank balances		\$ 381,665	\$ -
Outstanding contributions	3	864,137	804,003
Accounts and other receivables	4	<u>90,869</u>	<u>156,743</u>
Total current assets		<u>1,336,671</u>	<u>960,746</u>
 PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	 5	 <u>1,059,234</u>	 <u>984,279</u>
TOTAL		<u>\$2,395,905</u>	<u>\$1,945,025</u>
 <u>LIABILITIES AND GENERAL FUND</u>			
Bank overdraft		-	71,514
Other liabilities	6	<u>359,150</u>	<u>14,119</u> *
Total liabilities		<u>359,150</u>	<u>85,633</u>
 CAPITAL FUND	 5	 776,218	 776,218
GENERAL FUND		<u>1,260,537</u>	<u>1,083,174</u> *
TOTAL		<u>\$2,395,905</u>	<u>\$1,945,025</u>


) Executive Director,
) CRFM


)
) Corporate Services Manager,
) CRFM

* Restated

See notes to balance sheet and statements of contributions and expenditures.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
MEMBER STATES CONTRIBUTIONS	\$1,586,039	\$1,263,445 *
OTHER INCOME	-	228,814
	<u>1,586,039</u>	<u>1,492,259</u>
EXPENDITURES		
General administration – Belize	280,252	228,253
Procurement – CRFM	-	767
Housing	31,443	16,593
CARICOM long term personnel (Technical)	576,799	453,121
General administration (SVG)	121,575	99,448
Programme coordination and auditing	49,705	8,162
Meeting of fisheries forum	44,656	129,616
Database software / upgrading TIP & LRS	15,131	-
Working group on large pelagics / participation in ICCAT activities	17,181	10,883
Assessment of small coastal pelagics fisheries	14,667	4,440
Shrimp and groundfish working group	10,430	-
Assessment of conch fishery	-	13,441
Provide technical assistance & monitoring	50,835	-
Educational equipment and materials procurement	-	1,020
Mobilization/training in organiz. Mgmt	3,853	2,747
Short term training and attachments	-	650
Publication of technical reports	13,101	1,287
Documentation center operations	6,050	1,062
Fisheries master plan for caricom	43,991	-
Formulation of a caricom fisheries policy and regime (CFP&R)	56,439	-
Advocacy – promoting the CRFM	13,166	-
Provision of regional & international technical support	33,725	-
Development and implementation fisheries management plans	32,102	-
Institutional strengthening of leaders of fisheries organizations	87,850	-
Long term training scholarships	24,267	-
Network administration	2,944	-
Assessment of flying fish	-	1,838
Assessment of shrimp fishery	-	2,379
National fisheries workshop	-	5,931
National dialogue groups	-	10,152
Total	<u>1,530,162</u>	<u>991,790</u>
UNDER EXPENDED FUNDS	<u>\$ 55,877</u>	<u>\$ 500,469</u>

* Restated

See notes to balance sheets and statements of contributions and expenditures.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

NOTES TO BALANCE SHEET AND STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

1. STATUS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Status – The Caricom Fisheries Resources Assessment and Management Program (CFRAMP) (the “Project”) was established under the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement between the International Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and CARICOM on January 28, 1991. The Project was designed as a regional program to promote the management and conservation of fishery resources in the twelve (12) English speaking CARICOM countries and to permit exploitation of these resources on the basis of sustainable yield. The participating countries were: Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Lucia, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent and the Grenadines and Trinidad and Tobago. The project’s operation commenced in 1992 and was extended from the initial termination date of December 31, 1998 to March 31, 2002.

CARICOM member states continued their counterpart funding to CFRAMP to March 31, 2004 as per decision made at the 11th meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) held in Georgetown, Guyana during the period May 21 to 23, 2001. Member States: Anguilla, The Bahamas, Haiti, Suriname, British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands became participating and contributory members effective October 31, 2001.

Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism was officially inaugurated on March 26, 2003 thereby replacing the CARICOM Fisheries Unit (CFU), which was initially established to deliver the CFRAMP project. The mission of the CRFM, which is headquartered in Belize City, Belize, is to “*Promote and facilitate the responsible utilization of the Region’s fisheries and other aquatic resources for the economic and social benefits of the current and future population of the region*”.

Significant Accounting Policies

- a. Basis of presentation – These financial statements have been prepared under historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of the project’s property. See Note 5
- b. Foreign currency translations – Transactions in foreign currencies during the year are translated into Belize and United States dollars at the rates ruling on the dates of the transactions. Foreign currency balances outstanding at the balance sheet date are translated at the rates ruling on that date. Gains or losses on ordinary foreign exchange transactions are included in the results of operations.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

NOTES TO BALANCE SHEETS AND STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED) YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

1. STATUS AND SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

- c. Property, plant and equipment – Property, plant and equipment are carried at cost, except for land and buildings which are stated at revalued amounts. No depreciation is charged on assets acquired by CRFM.

Maintenance, repairs and renewals are charged against revenue in the year the expenditure is incurred; major renewals and improvements are capitalized.

When property, plant and equipment are disposed of by sale or scrapping, the cost is removed from the accounting records and any resulting gain or loss is included in the fund balance.

- d. Financial instruments – The financial assets and liabilities are recognized on the balance sheet when CRFM has become an obliged contractual party to the instrument. The financial instruments of CRFM consist primarily of accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses. Unless otherwise disclosed, the fair value of these financial instruments approximate carrying value.

2. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The CRFM reports on a comprehensive basis of accounting by preparing a report of budget versus actual expenses. Budgets are prepared in respect of CARICOM Member States contributions as per Annual Work Plans and Budgets Reports.

Contributions from member states due are and obligations existing at March 31, are recognized on the accrual basis.

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

NOTES TO BALANCE SHEETS AND STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED) YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

3. OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTIONS

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Anguilla	\$ -	\$ -
Antigua & Barbuda	100,793	92,494
The Bahamas	-	-
Barbados	34,279	-
Belize	-	-
Dominica	61,564	33,491
Grenada	35,479	7,406
Guyana	22,712	1,037
Haiti	142,985	95,404
Jamaica	245,807	380,219
Montserrat	-	-
St. Kitts & Nevis	-	-
St. Lucia	30,297	2,224
St. Vincent & the Grenadines	-	-
Suriname	173,062	180,279
Trinidad & Tobago	-	-
The British Virgin Islands	17,159	11,449
Turks & Caicos Islands	-	-
	<u>\$864,137</u>	<u>\$804,003</u>

4. ACCOUNTS AND OTHER RECEIVABLES

Other receivables consist of interfund balances and staff advances to be received within the next few months.

5. PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

Land and buildings are stated at their revalued amounts based on valuation performed by independent appraiser dated March 29, 2003 at a value of EC\$ 776,218 (US\$ 288,750). Lands and buildings include six structures held in trust by CFRAMP for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Arrangements are underway for the legal title transfer of properties from ICOD to CRFM as supported by resolution dated March 27, 2003 affirming CIDA's support of the assets transferred and CRFM's subsequent acceptance. Furniture, fixtures and equipments are stated at cost EC\$283,016 (US\$105,281).

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

NOTES TO BALANCE SHEETS AND STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED) YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)

6. OTHER LIABILITIES

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Accounts payable	\$123,772	\$ 4,704
Contributions in advance	62,273	2,042
Gratuity payable	148,383	-
Other funds payable	<u>24,722</u>	<u>7,373</u>
	<u>\$359,150</u>	<u>\$14,119</u>

Accounts payable include the accrual of expense incurred but not paid at year end.

7. OTHER INCOME

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Other funds	\$ -	\$ 83,651
Rent Income	-	145,163
	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$228,814</u>

8. MEMBER STATES CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED

<u>Member States</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>
Anguilla	\$ 4,758	\$ 3,790
Antigua & Barbuda	19,774	-
Bahamas	189,599	123,818
Barbados	136,061	135,695
Belize	45,836	36,555
Dominica	-	11,129
Grenada	-	37,320
Guyana	89,348	183,616
Haiti	-	-
Jamaica	495,709	241,938
Montserrat	5,565	4,442
St. Kitts & Nevis	56,146	25,075
St. Lucia	-	44,525
St. Vincent & The Grenadines	28,073	22,363
Suriname	118,240	42,331
Trinidad & Tobago	396,510	315,864
British Virgin Islands	-	-
Turks & Caicos Islands	516	3,568
TOTAL	<u>\$1,586,135</u>	<u>\$1,232,029</u>

CARIBBEAN REGIONAL FISHERIES MECHANISM

**NOTES TO BALANCE SHEETS AND
STATEMENTS OF CONTRIBUTIONS AND EXPENDITURES (CONTINUED)
YEARS ENDED MARCH 31, 2005 AND 2004 (EASTERN CARIBBEAN DOLLARS)**

9. ICRAFD PAYMENTS

As at April 30, 2004, ICRAFD Work Program No. 3 came to a close. The audited bank balance was \$197,597 as at April 30, 2004. This amount represents related committed expenses incurred by the ICRAFD. These payments were administered by CRFM subsequent to closure of ICRAFD.

	<u>2005</u>	
Balance as at April 30, 2004		\$197,597
<u>Expenses</u>		
Emoluments	\$ 53,825	
Consultants	49,047	
Audit fees	1,500	
Courier services	963	
Telephone charges	3,933	
Postage	873	
Repairs and maintenance	2,352	
Haiti survey	16,480	
Office supplies	3,849	
Procurement	30,975	
Workshop expense	25,600	
Scholarship expenses	2,596	
Travel expenses	<u>7,212</u>	
Less: total expenses		<u>199,205</u>
TOTAL OVERPAYMENT		\$ <u>1,608</u>
* * * * *		

ANNEX II

LIST OF ACRONYMS

ACP	African Caribbean and Pacific States
CARDI	Caribbean Agricultural Research Development Institute
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CARIFIS	Caribbean Fisheries Information System
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum of ACP States
CARISEC	CARICOM Secretariat
CBCRM	Community-Based Coastal Resources Management
CDB	Caribbean Development Bank
CERMES	Centre for Resource Management and Environmental Studies
CFMC	Caribbean Fisheries Management Council
CFU	CARICOM Fisheries Unit
CFRAMP	CARICOM Fisheries Resource Assessment and Management Program
CITES	Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora
CLME	Caribbean Large Marine Ecosystem
COTED	Council on Trade and Economic Development
CRFM	Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation ACP-EU
CZMA/I	Coastal Zone Management Authority and Institute
DFID	Department for International Development (U.K.)
DNA	Deoxy Ribose Nucleic Acid
DRAO	Deputy Regional Authorizing Officer
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
ICCAT	International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna
ICRAFD	Integrated Caribbean Regional Agriculture and Fisheries Development Programme
IDRC	International Development Research Centre
IOI	International Oceans Institute
IMA	Institute of Marine Affairs
IUU	Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing
JICA	Japan International Cooperation Agency
LOA	Letter of Agreement
LRS	Licensing and Registration Systems
MAREMP	Marine Resource Environmental Assessment and Management Programme

(continued overleaf)

LIST OF ACRONYMS (continued)

NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Services
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OCT	Overseas Countries and Territories
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
RFMO	Regional Fisheries Management Organization
SCRS	ICCAT Scientific Committee in Research and Statistics
SIFAR	Support Unit for International Fisheries and Aquatic Research Strategy for International Fisheries
TCDC	Technical Cooperation among Developing Countries
TCP	Technical Cooperation Programme
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Seas
UWI	University of the West Indies
WECAFC	Western Central Atlantic Fisheries Commission of the FAO, United Nations
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development