

REPORT

OF THE

SEVENTEENTH MEETING OF

THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE AND

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

(COTED)



CHAIRPERSON:

Hon. Montgomery Daniel
Minister of State in the
Ministry of Agriculture
**ST. VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES**

VENUE AND DATE:

Crowne Plaza Hotel
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
16 June 2004

CONTENTS

		<u>Page(s)</u>
INTRODUCTION		1
REPRESENTATION		1
1. OPENING REMARKS		1-2
2. ACCESSION OF CHAIRMAN		2
3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA		2
4. PROCEDURAL MATTERS		2
5. CARICOM SINGLE MARKET AND ECONOMY (CSME)]	2-8
6. AGRICULTURAL SECTOR ISSUES:		9-128
6.1 Regional Transformation Programme for Agriculture]]]]	
6.1.1 Agri-businesses Development]]	9-11
6.1.1.1 Progress Report on Enterprise Development Process Competitiveness Strategy]]]	
6.1.2 Marketing Development]]	11-14
6.1.2.1 Report on CAMID]	
6.1.3 Technical Cooperation Support -]	15-20
6.1.3.1 South-South Cooperation]	15-16
6.1.3.2 CARICOM-Spain Technical Assistance]]	17
6.1.3.3 Agencies -]	18-20
6.1.3.3.1 United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (UNFAO)]]]]]	18-19

With respect to Free Movement of university graduates, musicians, artistes, media workers and sports persons,

THE COTED:

Called on Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados and St Kitts and Nevis to admit CARICOM nationals who qualify, even while the process of completing the legislative and administrative action continues;

Endorsed the recommendation that there was no need to issue two or more Skills Certificates to CARICOM nationals moving in the Single Market.

With respect to Facilitation of Travel,

THE COTED:

Agreed that the recommendation from its Sixteenth Meeting to the Conference regarding the formal adoption of a common CARICOM Passport as set out below;

“The Community should adopt a common machine-readable passport for travel in the Region by CARICOM Nationals and nationals from Third Countries, given the current environment in which emphasis is placed on security.”

be amended to reflect that it relates to both intra-regional and extra-regional travel for CARICOM nationals as follows -

“the Community should adopt for CARICOM nationals for travel intra-regionally and extra-regionally, a common machine-readable passport and for nationals from Third Countries, for intra-regional travel, a machine-readable passport, given the current environment in which emphasis is placed on security.”

The specifications of the CARICOM Passport and a sample passport cover are on **pages 7 and 8 of this Report**.

With respect to Public Education,

THE COTED:

Expressed its thanks to the Donor Community for supporting the CSME Public Education Programme during 2004 and **also expressed** its expectation that the support will continue;

Encouraged Member States to focus on the national Public Education Programme as a necessary component of CSME implementation;

Supported the thrust of the Regional Programme.