

THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (CARICOM)





Imagine a sun-kissed part of the world washed by the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, that runs along endless coastlines, which give way to virgin rainforests, the lungs of the earth. Envision a region where turquoise water splashes stunning beaches and the sounds of calypso, soca, reggae, chutney and steelpan fill the air.

Think about carnival-like festivals bringing to life the most spectacular array of colours, artistry, food, music and dance.

This is where you will find the Caribbean Community, a group comprising 21 countries in the Caribbean and South America, which formed an integration movement on 4 July 1973 by the signing of the Treaty of Chaguaramas in Trinidad and Tobago.

The Treaty was signed by the Prime Ministers of the four founding members of CARICOM:



ERROL BARROW
BARBADOS



FORBES BURNHAM
GUYANA



MICHAEL MANLEY
JAMAICA



ERIC WILLIAMS
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MEMBER STATES

CARICOM comprises fifteen (15) Member States and six (6) Associate Members.



- Antigua and Barbuda
- Commonwealth of The Bahamas
- Barbados
- Belize
- Commonwealth of Dominica
- Grenada
- Cooperative Republic of Guyana
- Republic of Haiti
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
- Republic of Suriname
- Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS



- Anguilla
- Bermuda
- British Virgin Islands
- Cayman Islands
- Curaçao
- Turks and Caicos Islands

The six (6) Associate Members of CARICOM benefit from CARICOM, particularly in human and social development. However, the Heads of Government of these countries do not participate in political decisions since the countries are still dependent territories of Great Britain.

Our History

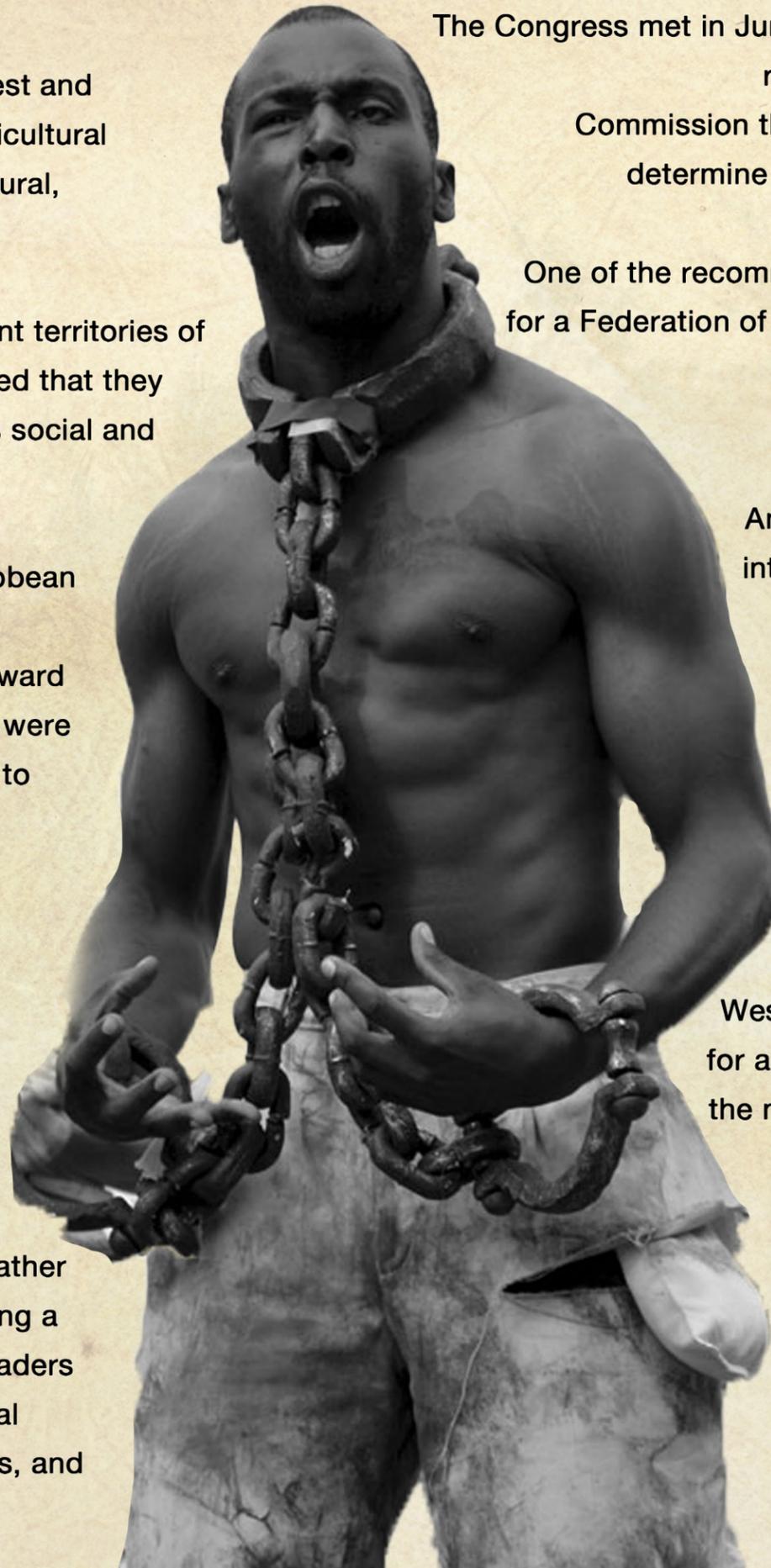
The presence of our indigenous Amerindian people, European conquest and colonialization, the plantation system and slavery geared towards agricultural production of sugar and tobacco, bestowed to our region, similar cultural, environmental, social, and economic structures.

Left to navigate the legacy of centuries of exploitation, the independent territories of the Anglophone Caribbean forged regional integration efforts convinced that they fared better together than as individual states in the face of numerous social and economic challenges.

Integration has always been at the nucleus of our existence as a Caribbean Community. In the seminal 2005 publication titled, **CARICOM, Our Caribbean Community: An Introduction** it is recorded that the Windward Islands – Grenada, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent, and Tobago (until 1889) – were governed by the Windward Islands Federation during the period 1833 to 1958.

Similarly, the British governed Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Montserrat, and St Kitt-Nevis-Anguilla under the Leeward Island Federation from 1871-1956, with Dominica shifting to the Windward Island Federation in 1939. About five years earlier, leaders in the labour movement started discussing the idea of a West Indies Federation.

History credits T.A. Marrayshow of Grenada, commonly hailed as the Father of Federation, and A.A. Cipriani of Trinidad and Tobago for championing a federation drafted by and for West Indians. The publication informs readers that the labour and social agitations of 1937 raised the decibels several notches for a West Indian Federation. The West India Labour Congress, and later, the Caribbean Labour Congress led the call.



The Congress met in June and November 1938 in British Guiana and Trinidad, respectively to prepare for discussions with the Moyne Commission that had been established by the British government to determine the causes of unrest among the West Indian colonies.

One of the recommendations emanating from the Labour Congress was for a Federation of the West Indies based on full internal self-governance with adult suffrage.

Post-World War II was a defining moment for the Anglophone Caribbean, in terms of self-governance and integration prescribed by West Indians for West Indians.

Two years after the War ended, West Indian leaders across the political, labour, and community development spectrum came together in Montego Bay, Jamaica, to ruminate over the future of the Region in the post-war era.

Under the theme, ‘Closer Association of the British West Indian Colonies’, the Conference laid the foundation for a federation, but the West Indies would have to wait for the manifestation of the self-determination that those early regionalists envisaged.

Britain accepted the idea of a larger federation, but only under its control. History records that it guided negotiations of the process which began in 1953, outside the Region (in Britain), and excluded the wide group of stakeholders which were involved in the Montego Bay Conference.

The talks mainly involved political leaders, who differed in opinion about it. Some leaders hoped the 1958 West Indies Federation would provide a vehicle for the political independence of the grouping members. Others like George Price of Belize and Cheddi Jagan of Guyana, abstained from participating, convinced it was not the best alternative for their territories.

Ten territories signed the British Caribbean Federation Act of 1956.

These were:

- Antigua and Barbuda
- Barbados
- Dominica
- Grenada
- Jamaica
- Montserrat
- (then) St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla
- Saint Lucia
- St. Vincent and the Grenadines
- Trinidad and Tobago.

The short-lived Federation was wrought with problems ranging from the governance structures to disagreement about taxation and central planning. Another contentious issue was the unwillingness on the part of most territorial governments to give up power to the federal government. The final straw in its controversial existence was the withdrawal of Jamaica in 1961.

During its brief existence from 1958-1962, the Federation created the West Indies Shipping Service which operated the Federal Maple and the Federal Palm. It also consolidated tertiary education with the University College of the West Indies, now, the University of the West Indies opening a second campus in St. Augustine, Trinidad and Tobago in 1960.



Carifta

Free Trade Area

The demise of the Federation in 1962 inspired political leaders to forge ahead with the original idea of a Union prescribed by and for West Indians. That spirit of determination to construct a tangible integration product guided the leaders of Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, and British Guiana to define the ideals for cooperation in the Dickenson Bay Agreement. In December 1965, they formalised the Caribbean Free Trade Area (CARIFTA).

It came into being in May 1968, with the participation of:

- ***Antigua and Barbuda***
- ***Barbados***
- ***Guyana and***
- ***Trinidad and Tobago***

CARIFTA was built upon a people-centred model of integration that endured to CARICOM. Its primary mission was the fulfilment of the hopes and aspirations of the people of the Caribbean for full employment and improved living standards.

Leaders formed CARIFTA to optimise the use of human and other resources to accelerate sustained economic development, and to trade among member countries. In the spirit of true regionalism, in December 1965 they agreed to delay implementation to allow other countries to consider membership. Dominica, Grenada, Jamaica, Montserrat, Saint Lucia, the then St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla, and St. Vincent and the Grenadines entered on 1 August 1968 and in May 1971, British Honduras (Belize) joined.

Enhanced trade among states was a core focus of CARIFTA. Leaders worked to increase, diversify, and liberalise trade and safeguard fair competition. CARICOM, Our Caribbean Community: An Introduction details that intra-regional trade grew from EC\$95.7 million in 1967 to EC\$ 298 million in 1973, an expansion of more than 100 per cent. During CARIFTA, trading in manufactured goods was free of import duties and quotas.

The 1968 Agricultural Marketing Protocol, which encouraged trade in agriculture in CARIFTA, and the establishment of the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) in 1969 were part of the policy and institutional mechanisms that spurred economic growth and development among member countries.



TRANSITIONING TO CARICOM

Several factors led to the transformation of CARIFTA into the Caribbean Community and Common Market.

Leaders wanted to strengthen existing areas of cooperation and expand into new ones. External developments concerning the future of preferential trading arrangements brought additional pressures for leaders to strengthen regional integration.

At their meeting in Chaguaramas in November 1972, they reached the landmark agreement to transform CARIFTA into the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM).

The process was set out in the April 1973 Georgetown Accord which enveloped the draft treaty. There were two agreements of the treaty- one established the Caribbean Community, and the Annex set out the details of the Caribbean Common Market. These two agreements were signed separately. They allowed Member States to be members of CARICOM, without being members of the Common Market.

On 4 July 1973, in Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago, four Prime Ministers signed the treaty establishing the Caribbean Community and Common Market – the Treaty of Chaguaramas. The date 4 July was chosen to honour Norman Manley, a leading advocate of the West Indies Federation and one of Jamaica's national heroes. By May 1974, all members of CARIFTA became members of CARICOM. The Bahamas, Suriname, and Haiti formally became members of the Community in 1983, 1995, and 2002 respectively.





THE STRUCTURE OF CARICOM

Principle Organs Organs of the Community

The Conference of Heads of Government is the supreme decision-making organ of the Community. It comprises the Heads of Government of CARICOM Member States and Associate Members. A CARICOM Quasi Cabinet was established in 1999 at the Special Session of the Heads of Government held in Chaguaramas, Trinidad and Tobago, the birthplace of CARICOM.

In the Consensus of Chaguaramas, which set out the initiatives to take the Community into the 2000s and beyond, the Heads agreed to constitute themselves into a quasi-cabinet with individuals having portfolios for regional development.

The Community Council of Ministers is responsible for the development of strategic planning and coordination in economic integration, functional cooperation, and external relations in accordance with the policy direction of the Conference of Heads of Government.

The Council serves as a preparatory body for the meetings of the Conference and approves the budget of the Secretariat.

The principal organs of the Community are assisted by four other organs, three bodies and the Secretariat.

CARICOM Quasi-Cabinet



Antigua and Barbuda
Services



The Bahamas
Tourism



Barbados
Single Market and Economy; Reparations



Belize
Justice and Governance



Dominica
Labour



Grenada
Science and Technology



Guyana
Agriculture, Agricultural Diversification and Food Security



Jamaica
External Trade Negotiations



Saint Lucia
Sustainable Development



St. Kitts and Nevis
Human Resource Development, Health and HIV/AIDS



St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Transport



Suriname
Community Development & Cultural Cooperation; Industrial Policy



Trinidad and Tobago
Energy; and Security (Drugs and Illicit Arms)



THE CONFERENCE OF HEADS OF GOVERNMENT



Hon. Gaston Alfonso Browne
Antigua and Barbuda



Hon. Philip Edward Davis
The Bahamas



Hon. Mia Amor Mottley
Barbados



Hon. John Briceño
Belize



Hon. Roosevelt Skerrit
Dominica



Hon. Dickon Mitchell
Grenada



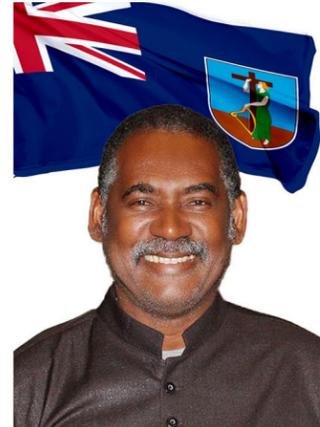
H.E. Dr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali
Guyana



H.E. Alix Didier Fils-Aimé
Haiti



Dr. the Most Hon. Andrew Holness
Jamaica



Hon. Reuben T. Meade
Montserrat



Hon. Dr. Terrance Michael Drew
St Kitts and Nevis



Hon. Philip J. Pierre
Saint Lucia



Dr. Hon. Godwin Friday
St Vincent and the Grenadines



H.E. Chandrikapersad Santokhi
Suriname



Hon. Kamla Persad-Bissessar
Trinidad and Tobago



Hon. Cora Richardson-Hodge
Anguilla
Associate Member



Hon. E. David Burt
Bermuda
Associate Member



Dr. Hon. Natalio D. Wheatley
British Virgin Islands
Associate Member



Hon. Andre Ebanks
Cayman Islands
Associate Member



H.E. Mr. Gilmar Pisas
Curaçao
Associate Member



Hon. Charles Washington Misick
Turks and Caicos Islands
Associate Member

THE ORGANS OF CARICOM



THE COUNCIL FOR FINANCE AND PLANNING (COFAP)

Responsible for economic policy coordination, financial and monetary integration of Member States.



THE COUNCIL FOR FOREIGN AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS (COFCOR)

Determines relations between the Community, and international organisations and Third States, and promotes the development of friendly and mutually beneficial relations among Member States.



THE COUNCIL FOR HUMAN AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT (COHSOD)

Promotes functional cooperation in health, education, human development, culture, gender, youth development and security coordination among Member States.



THE COUNCIL FOR TRADE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (COTED)

Promotes trade and economic development of the Community and oversees the operation of the Single Market and Economy.



THE COUNCIL FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (CONSLE)

Plays a crucial role in coordinating security efforts within the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).

THE BODIES OF CARICOM



The Legal Affairs Committee(LAC) provides legal advice to the organs and bodies of the Community. The Attorneys General and Ministers of Legal Affairs of CARICOM Member States comprise the LAC.



The Budget Committee which comprises representatives of Ministries of Finance, and other designated representatives of government, examines the draft budget and work programme of the Secretariat and submits recommendations to the Community Council.



The Committee of Central Bank Governors: provides recommendations to COFAP on monetary and financial matters.

The Principal Administrative Organ of the Community is the CARICOM Secretariat, which facilitates and supports the work of the **principal organs, organs and bodies**. It does this by helping to develop and **implement policies and programmes** to achieve the **objectives of the Community**. The Secretariat is headed by a Secretary-General, the Community's Chief Executive Officer. Since 1973, nine CARICOM nationals have occupied the office of Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community.

THE FUNCTIONS OF CARICOM

CARICOM Member States work together for harmonised regional policy development and execution of the following functions:



Trade and Economic Integration



Foreign Policy Coordination



Human and Social Development



Security Cooperation

The Decision-Making Process in CARICOM

The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas provides for decision-making by voting: nevertheless, decisions in the organs and bodies of the Community are arrived at through consensus.

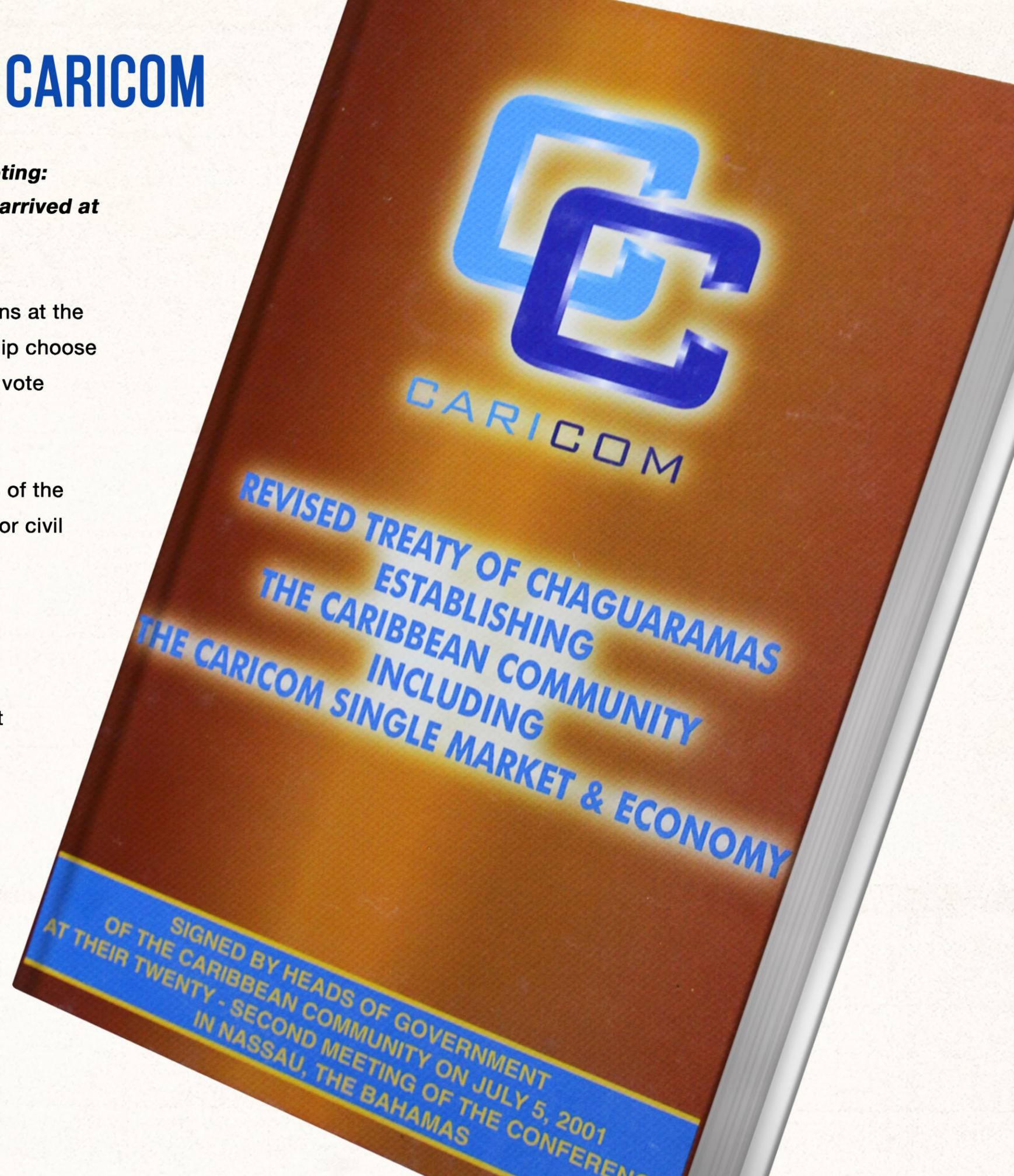
The voting procedures outlined by the Revised Treaty are two types. Decisions at the Conference require unanimity. However, if up to 25 per cent of its membership choose to abstain, the result would still be deemed an affirmative one. One negative vote however, blocks unanimity, resulting in no decision.

In the other organs and bodies, a decision, can be taken once three quarters of the members vote in the affirmative. The Revised Treaty provides opportunities for civil society to be brought into the decision-making through consultation.

The Charter of Civil Society

The proposal for adopting a Charter of Civil Society was one of the strongest recommendations of the West Indian Commission. In 1992, the West Indian Commission chaired by Sir Shridath Ramphal, former Secretary-General of the Commonwealth presented its Time for Action Report which several recommendations for deepening regional integration.

During its regional consultations, the Commission found widespread support for an instrument clearly elaborating and promoting the values that the people hold dear. Heads of Government adopted the Charter of Civil Society at their Eight Inter-Sessional Meeting in 1997 in St. John's, Antigua.



OUR INSTITUTIONS



CAHFSA
CARIBBEAN AGRICULTURAL
HEALTH & FOOD SAFETY AGENCY

Caribbean Agricultural
Health and Food Safety
Agency (CAHFSA)



CARDI

Caribbean Agricultural
Development
Institute (CARDI)



CARICAD
Caribbean Centre for Development Administration
Improving Public Services for the People of the Caribbean

Caribbean Centre for
Development Administration
(CARICAD)



Caribbean
Public Health
Agency
CARPHA

Caribbean Public Health
Agency (CARPHA)



CASSOS
Caribbean Aviation Safety and Security Oversight System

Caribbean Aviation Safety
and Security Oversight
System (CASSOS)



CARICOM
competition
commission

CARICOM Competition
Commission (CCC)



Caribbean Community
Climate Change Centre

Caribbean Community
Climate Change Centre
(CCCCC)



CDEMA
CARIBBEAN
DISASTER EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT AGENCY
Resilient States - Safer Lives

Caribbean Disaster
Emergency Management
Agency (CDEMA)



IMPACS
IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY FOR
CRIME AND SECURITY

CARICOM Implementation
Agency for Crime and
Security (IMPACS)



Caribbean Development
Fund (CDF)

Caribbean Development
Fund (CDF)



CCREEE
CARIBBEAN CENTRE FOR RENEWABLE
ENERGY & ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Caribbean Centre for
Renewable Energy and
Energy Efficiency
(CCREEE)



CIMH
CARIBBEAN INSTITUTE FOR
METEOROLOGY AND HYDROLOGY

Caribbean Institute for
Meteorology and
Hydrology (CIMH)



CMO
CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL
ORGANIZATION

Caribbean Meteorological
Organisation (CMO)



CRFM

Caribbean Regional
Fisheries Mechanism
(CRFM)



CROSQ
CARIBBEAN REGIONAL ORGANIZATION
FOR STANDARDS & QUALITY

CARICOM Regional
Organisation for
Standards and Quality
(CROSQ)



Caribbean
Telecommunications
Union

Caribbean
Telecommunications
Union (CTU)



CXC

Caribbean Examinations
Council (CXC)

Associate Institutions



Functional Cooperation Institutions are: 1. **Caribbean Council of Legal Education (CLE)**,
2. **Caribbean Export Development Agency (Caribbean Export)** 3. **Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO)**



THE CARICOM SINGLE MARKET AND ECONOMY

The CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) was established to stimulate economic growth and enhance international competitiveness through the utilization of human resources, and other factors of production available in the region. This is expected to contribute to increased production, productivity, and improved living standards, including better work opportunities for CARICOM nationals. The Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas, establishing the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy, put in place the legal framework for implementation of the CSME and has been enacted into domestic law by all countries participating in the CSME.

In 2006, the Single Market component of the CSME came into effect with the following key elements:

- ***The rights to establish a business***
- ***The provision of services***
- ***The free movement of skills/labour***
- ***The free movement of goods***
- ***The free movement of capital***

For CARICOM employees and their enterprises, the CSME provides increased business and investment opportunities by offering a wider market to participate and access to a larger pool of skilled workers. It also offers a new platform for business to operate in a larger market rather than smaller individual markets.

MILESTONES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

1973

The Treaty of Chaguaramas which established the Caribbean Community and Common Market, (CARICOM) was signed. The original signatories were Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica, and Trinidad and Tobago. By 1974 all other members of precursor organisation CARIFITA had signed the Agreement to become full members of CARICOM.



1991

The British Virgin Islands and Turks and Caicos Islands became associate members of the Community. Under the leadership of Chief Ministers H. Lavity Stoutt and Charles Washington Misick respectively.



2002

Haiti was formally admitted as the fifteenth Member State of the Community under the leadership of H.E. President Jean Bertrand Aristide. The Cayman Islands became an Associate Member under the leadership of Premier the Hon. W. McKeever Bush, OBE, JP.



2006

On 1 January the CSME, which set new goals for regional integration, came into operation. The Single Market component of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy came into being with the following Member States: Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago. The other Member States, except The Bahamas and Haiti, which had not signified their intention to participate in the CSME, and Montserrat - a British Dependency, which must await the necessary instrument of entrustment from the United Kingdom - became part of the Single Market in June 2006.



1995

Suriname joined the Community and the Common Market under the leadership of H.E. President Ronald Venetiaan.



2003

Bermuda became an Associate Member under the leadership of Premier Dame Jennifer Smith.



2007

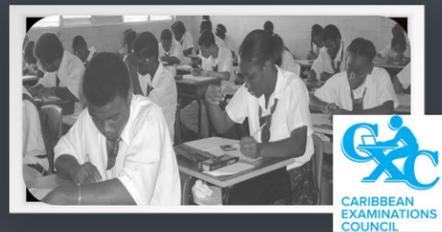
CARICOM created a Single Domestic Space for World Cup Cricket - fulfilling an objective of the CSME. The SDS was established among 10 states, the nine countries which were venues for the games (Antigua and Barbuda, Barbados, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and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



Prime Minister of Jamaica and Chairman of the Conference of Heads of Government for CARICOM, P.J. Patterson (second right) signs the Cricket World Cup 2007 Host Agreement formally establishing the partnership between the International Cricket Council (ICC) and the WICB for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007.

1973

An Agreement establishing the Caribbean Examinations Council was signed in Barbados by the governments of 15 English-speaking Caribbean territories in 1973 thus creating an institution with two Administrative and Operational Centres (AOC) in Barbados and Jamaica. The establishment of CXC represented the actualisation of a shared dream of a regional examination body which would serve as an integrating force in the Caribbean.



1999

Anguilla became an Associate Member under the leadership of Chief Minister Hubert Hughes.



2005

The Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) was inaugurated in Trinidad and Tobago, where it is also headquartered. The inauguration of the Caribbean Court of Justice signalled the deepening of the integration process. The Court is a critical pillar as the Community deepens its integration process. It plays a central role in ensuring that the rights of the Region's citizens are upheld during the operation of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME).



2008

The CARICOM Competition Commission (the Commission) was established by Article 171 of the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas (RTC), and is one of the key institutions in support of the CSME. The Commission was inaugurated in Paramaribo, Suriname on 18 January 2008.



1989

The 1989 Grand Anse Declaration in Grenada signaled the determination of the Community to remove the disadvantages of size and geography from our national development through the commitment to establish the Single Market and Single Economy.



2001

On February 14 the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice was signed by 10 member states: Antigua & Barbuda, Barbados, Belize, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts & Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago. Later in 2003 Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines signed the Agreement.



2009

The Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) is a regional inter-governmental agency for disaster management in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM). The Agency was established in 1991 as CDERA (Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency) with primary responsibility for the coordination of emergency response and relief efforts to Participating States that require such assistance. It transitioned to CDEMA in 2009 to fully embrace the principles and practice of Comprehensive Disaster Management (CDM).



2014

The CARICOM Song, “Celebrating CARICOM”, is the official song of the Community. This song celebrates the history, culture, and identity of the people of the Caribbean and is to be used primarily at ceremonial and Community events. The Song was launched at the 35th Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government held in Antigua and Barbuda in July 2014.



The writer/singer of the official CARICOM Song “Celebrating CARICOM” – Ms. Michele Henderson, a recording artiste from the Commonwealth of Dominica is presented with a plaque by CARICOM Secretary-General Ambassador Irwin LaRocque.

2019

The fourteenth installment of the Caribbean Festival of the Arts (CARIFESTA) was held in Trinidad and Tobago. CARIFESTA has been a catalyst for the strengthening of regional integration among our Caribbean countries, artisans, and cultural practitioners.



2013

In order to efficiently address the public health concerns of the Region, a single regional public health agency, the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) was legally established July 2011 by an Inter-Governmental Agreement signed by Caribbean Community Member States and began operation in January 2013. It was an amalgamation of five regional agencies (The Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI); The Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC); The Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute (CFNI); The Caribbean Health Research Council (CHRC); The Caribbean Regional Drug Testing Laboratory (CRDTL).



2017

Through collaborative efforts of CARICOM-PANCAP and Member States, the World Health Organization (WHO) certified six Caribbean countries; Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, Montserrat, and St. Kitts and Nevis as having eliminated mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis.



2018

The Protocol on Contingent Rights was adopted in 2018, which allows spouses and dependents of persons who move to another country, in accordance with the Free Movement of Skills Regime, to access services such as primary health care and education up to the secondary school level.



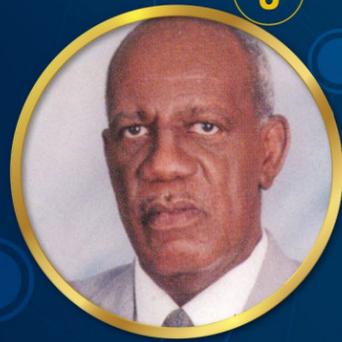
2023

The 50th staging of the CARIFTA Games was held at the Thomas A Robinson Stadium in Nassau, The Bahamas. The CARIFTA Games is an annual athletics competition founded by the Caribbean Free Trade Association (CARIFTA). The games were first held in 1972 and consist of track and field events including sprint races, hurdles, middle distance track events, jumping and throwing events, and relays.



Opening ceremony of the CARIFTA Games in The Bahamas

SECRETARIES GENERAL



1. Dr Carla Barnett of Belize, **15 August 2021—present**
2. Ambassador Irwin Larocque of Dominica, **2011 – 2021**
3. Ambassador Lolita Applewhaite of Barbados, performed the duties of Secretary-General, **1 Jan – Aug 2011**
4. Sir Edwin Carrington of Trinidad and Tobago, **1992-2010**
5. Mr Roderick Rainford of Jamaica, **1983-1992**
6. Dr. Kurleigh King of Barbados, **1979 – 1983**
7. Mr. Joseph Tyndall of Guyana, performed the duties of Secretary-General from **1977-1978**
8. The Honourable Alister McIntyre of Grenada, **1974- 1977**
9. The Honourable William Demas of Trinidad and Tobago became the Secretary-General of CARICOM in **1973**, during the transition of CARIFTA to CARICOM.
10. Mr. Frederick Cozier, Head Commonwealth Caribbean Regional Secretariat of Barbados, **1968- 1969**

THE ORDER OF THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY



The Order of the Caribbean Community is an award given to "Caribbean nationals whose legacy in the economic, political, social, and cultural metamorphoses of Caribbean society is phenomenal". The award was initiated at the Eighth (8th) Conference of Heads of State and Governments of CARICOM in 1987 and was first bestowed in 1992.

The OCC Agreement, revised in 2008, provides for the OCC to be awarded to "nationals of a Contracting Party or non-nationals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of the Caribbean Region". The insignia of the OCC set in gold and the Ribbon of the Order are presented to those honoured.



Dr. William Gilbert Demas
Trinidad and Tobago, 1992



Sir Shridath Surendranath Ramphal
Guyana, 1992



Mr. Derek Alton Walcott
Saint Lucia, 1992



H.E. Dame Ruth Nita Barrow
Barbados, 1994



Justice P. Telford Georges
Dominica, 1994



Sir John G.M. Compton
K.C.M.G. LL.B, Saint Lucia, 2003



Dame Mary Eugenia Charles
Dominica, 2003



Mr. Lloyd Algernon Best
Trinidad and Tobago, 2003



Hon. George Lamming, CHB
Barbados, 2008



Mr. Brian Charles Lara
Trinidad and Tobago
2008



HE Dr. Nicholas Joseph Orville
Liverpool, Dominica, 2008



Sir. Meredith Alister McIntyre
Grenada, 1994



The Most Hon. Michael Norman
Manley, Jamaica, 1994



Sir Vivian Richards
Antigua and Barbuda, 2022



The Rt. Hon. Vere Cornwall Bird
Antigua and Barbuda, 1998



H.E. Arthur Napoleon
Raymond Robinson
Trinidad & Tobago, 1998



Sir. Philip Manderson Sherlock
Jamaica, 1998



Prof. the Hon. Ralston
'REX' Nettleford
Jamaica, 2008



President Fidel Castro Ruiz Cuba,
[Special Honorary Conferment]
2008



The Most Hon. Percival Noel
James Patterson
Jamaica, 2009



Dame Billie Miller
Barbados, 2022



Sir. Edwin W. Carrington
Trinidad and Tobago 2010



Mr. Kamaluddin Mohammed
Trinidad and Tobago, 2012



Sir. Garfield St. Auburn Sobers
Barbados , 1998



Sir. George Alleyne
Barbados, 2001



Dr. Slinger Francisco
"The Mighty Sparrow"
Trinidad and Tobago, 2001



Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price
Belize, 2001



Ambassador Irwin LaRocque
Dominica, 2022



Mr. David Michael Rudder
Trinidad and Tobago, 2022



Sir Clive Hubert Lloyd,
Guyana, 2024



Mr. Roderick Rainford
Jamaica, 2024



THE TRIENNIAL AWARD FOR WOMEN

The CARICOM Triennial Award for Women was established in 1984. With this award, the Community honours Caribbean women who, through their leadership, have made a particular contribution to the socio-economic and socio-cultural development of women in the Region and of the Caribbean People as a whole.



H.E. Dame Nita Barrow
1987, National of Barbados



Dr. Peggy Antrobus
1990, National of Grenada and
Citizen of St. Vincent and the Grenadines



Ms. Magda Pollard
1993, National of Guyana



Justice Desiree Bernard
2005, National of Guyana



Prof. Barbara Evelyn Bailey
2008, National of Jamaica



Prof. Violet Eudine Barriteau
2011, National of Barbados



Dr. Lucille Mair
1996, National of Jamaica



Prof. Joycelin Massiah
1999, National of Guyana and
Citizen of Barbados



Prof. Rhoda Reddock
2002, National of Trinidad and Tobago



Ms. Marion Bethel
2014, National of The Bahamas



Ms. Shirley Pryce,
2017, National of Jamaica



The Rt. Hon. Dame Janet Gwennett Bostwick
2022, National of The Bahamas



Ms. Nesta Patrick
1984; National of Trinidad and Tobago

SYMBOLS OF REGIONAL INTEGRATION



CARICOM LOGO

The logo of the Caribbean Community consists of two interlocking C's. The two Cs are in the form of broken links in a chain, symbolising both unity and the break with our colonial past.



CARICOM STANDARD

The Standard of the Caribbean Community features a blue background – the upper part being a light blue representing the sky and the lower part of a dark blue representing the Caribbean Sea. The yellow circle in the centre of the Standard represents the sun on which is printed in black, the logo of the Caribbean Community – two interlocking Cs.

The two Cs are in the form of broken links in a chain, symbolising both unity and the break with our colonial past. The narrow ring of green around the sun represents the vegetation of the Region.

The Fourth Conference of Heads of Government Meeting in Port-of-Spain, Trinidad and Tobago, in July 1983, approved the design of the CARICOM Standard.

The original design was done by the firm of WINART Studies in Georgetown, Guyana. The CARICOM Standard was flown for the first time at the Fifth Conference of Heads of Government Meeting in Nassau, The Bahamas, in July 1984.

CARICOM PASSPORT

A CARICOM passport, which features the CARICOM logo and the words “Caribbean Community” printed on the cover, is a national passport which is issued in accordance with agreed common colours and format for intra-regional and extra-regional travel.

The Coat of Arms and the name of the Member State are also featured on the cover. It is part of the measures to promote hassle-free travel for CARICOM nationals. The first CARICOM passport was issued on 7 January 2005.



THE CARICOM SONG

The CARICOM Song is the official, patriotic song of the Caribbean Community, which celebrates the history, culture and identity of the people of the Caribbean. It is to be used primarily at ceremonial and Community events. In celebrating the Fortieth Anniversary of CARICOM in 2013, the CARICOM Secretariat launched a Song Competition to encourage the participation of all CARICOM Member States in composing a song that would inspire regional pride and unity, celebrate our diversity and highlight our shared vision and aspirations.

The composition 'Celebrating CARICOM' by Ms. Michele Henderson, a highly acclaimed recording artiste from the Commonwealth of Dominica, was selected by a regional panel of judges as the official CARICOM Song. A unique feature of the Song that celebrates our linguistic diversity, is the Kwéyòl spoken in the Lesser Antilles and Suriname's Sranan Tongo that punctuate the rhythmic Bridge. The Song was launched at the Thirty-Fifth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government held in Antigua and Barbuda, 1-4 July 2014.



Lyrics

Verse 1

From many distant lands, our forefathers came
Some seeking adventure, some bound in chains
Through battles waged and fought
Through victory and pain
By test of their courage
Our freedom was gained
In homage to those gone before us
The heroes of lands in the sun
We vow to join hands and to focus
On building one Caribbean

Chorus

**Raise your voices high
Sing of your Caribbean pride
Sing it loud and strong
Feel our hearts beat as one
Celebrate in song
As we rise to heights where we belong
Sound the victory drum
For CARICOM**

Verse 2

Though great and diverse be our ethnicities
The bonds that unite us are stronger than these
We dine we pray we love, we dance and we play
We relate to each other the West Indian way
Today as people united
Determined and steadfast we stand
We look to a brand-new horizon
The future now firmly in our hands

Chorus

Bridge

**Hélé hélé bwavo (Shout Bravo)
Opo yu stem CARICOM (Raise your voices CARICOM)
Lévé lévé wwa'w (Raise your Voices)
Naki yu dron CARICOM (Beat your drum CARICOM)
Tanbouyé tanbou a wo (Drummer drum woh)
Opo you stem CARICOM (Raise your voices CARICOM)
Lévé lévé wwa'w (Raise your voices)**

