INAUGURAL SUMMIT OF
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT AND
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATES,
COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES
OF THE
ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES (ACS)

DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES
AND PLAN OF ACTION
ON TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION

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PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
17-18 AUGUST 1995

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DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES ON TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION

WE, THE HEADS OF STATE, AND GOVERNMENT AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES PARTICIPATING IN THIS INAUGURAL SUMMIT OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES IN PORT-OF-SPAIN, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO ON 17-18 AUGUST 1995, EXPRESS SATISFACTION AT THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE CONVENTION ESTABLISHING THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES. WE AGREE TO ISSUE THE FOLLOWING DECLARATION OF PRINCIPLES ON TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION:

1. WE ARE FIRMLY COMMITTED TO INITIATING A NEW ERA IN THE CARIBBEAN REGION CHARACTERISED BY THE STRENGTHENING OF INTEGRATION, CONCERTED ACTION AND CONSULTATION IN ORDER TO ENSURE GREATER CULTURAL, ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, SCIENTIFIC, SOCIAL AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION AMONG OUR PEOPLES, GOVERNMENTS AND COUNTRIES;

2. WE COMMIT OUR STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES TO PURSUING THE PROMOTION OF THIS PROCESS IN A CLIMATE OF RESPECT FOR THE SOVEREIGNTY AND TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF OUR STATES, THE RIGHT OF OUR PEOPLES TO SELF-DETERMINATION, THE RULE OF LAW, THE ADHERENCE TO DEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES, THE OBSERVANCE OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE PEACEFUL RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES;

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3. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE COMMON OBJECTIVES WITHIN THE HEMISPHERIC SYSTEMS AND THAT OF THE UNITED NATIONS. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT OUR EFFORTS WITHIN THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES WILL CREATE A MORE COMPETITIVE AND VIABLE ECONOMIC SPACE, STRENGTHEN OUR CAPACITY TO IMPLEMENT OUR COMMITMENTS IN OTHER DOMAINS AND ADVANCE THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROSPERITY OF OUR PEOPLES;

4. WE REITERATE THAT COOPERATION AMONG THE STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES OF THE ASSOCIATION OF CARIBBEAN STATES PROVIDES AN IDEAL MECHANISM AND AFFORDS A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY FOR RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES PRESENTED BY THE GLOBALISATION OF THE WORLD ECONOMY, INCREASED TRADE LIBERALISATION AND COMPETITION FOR INVESTMENT AND MARKETS;

5. WE ARE FULLY COGNISANT THAT THE SHARED HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE OF THE STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES OF OUR ASSOCIATION PROVIDES A SOLID BASIS FOR DEVELOPING OUR EFFORTS AT COOPERATION AND CONCERTED ACTION, PARTICULARLY IN THE AREAS OF TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION, AS WELL AS FOR ENRICHING OUR FUTURE TO THE BENEFIT OF ALL OUR PEOPLES;

6. CONSCIOUS THAT THE PRIME OBJECTIVE OF OUR EFFORTS MUST BE AIMED AT IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF OUR PEOPLE AND PARTICULARLY, AT EFFECTIVELY COMBATING THE CRITICAL STATE OF POVERTY IN WHICH A LARGE PART OF THEM EXIST, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO PROMOTE THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR REGION, AS A VIABLE STRATEGY AIMED AT IMPROVING THESE CONDITIONS;

7. WE CONSIDER THAT IN THE CURRENT CONDITIONS, TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION CONSTITUTE THREE CRITICAL SECTORS WHICH SHOULD BE ACCORDED PRIORITY IN OUR CONCERTED ACTIONS TO PROMOTE COOPERATION THUS ADVANCING THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEOPLES AND LAYING THE FOUNDATION FOR PROGRESS IN OTHER AREAS OF INTEREST TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION;

8. CONVINCED THAT THE NATURAL ENDOWMENT AND CULTURAL DIVERSITY AND HERITAGE OF THE CARIBBEAN MAKE IT AN ATTRACTIVE TOURIST DESTINATION AND THAT THE TOURISM SECTOR IS VITAL TO THE ECONOMIES OF OUR STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO UNITE EFFORTS AND ACTIONS AIMED AT INCREASING THE TOURIST FLOW TO AND WITHIN THE CARIBBEAN, AT IMPROVING TOURISM INFRASTRUCTURE AND PRESERVING THE ENVIRONMENT;

9. WE REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO THE PRINCIPLES ENSHRINED IN THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE WORLD TRADE ORGANISATION AS A BASIS FOR DEVELOPING FREE TRADE AMONG ALL NATIONS. WE RECOGNISE THE VITAL CONTRIBUTION WHICH INCREASED TRADE CAN MAKE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF OUR STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES AND ARE THEREFORE OPPOSED TO ALL POLICIES, MEASURES AND ACTIONS WHICH ARE INIMICAL TO THESE PRINCIPLES;

10. WE ARE KEENLY AWARE THAT THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR TOURISM INDUSTRY AS WELL AS OUR TRADE IN GOODS AND OTHER SERVICES REQUIRE THE DEVELOPMENT OF EFFICIENT AND VIABLE AIR, SEA AND LAND TRANSPORT SYSTEMS. IN THIS REGARD, WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO TAKING CONCERTED AND EXPEDITIOUS ACTION;

11. COGNISANT OF THE SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN LEVELS OF DEVELOPMENT, SIZE AND POPULATION AMONG OUR STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES, WE WILL ACCORDINGLY SEEK MEANS TO FOSTER DEVELOPMENT AND PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES TO FACILITATE THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES IN THE INTEGRATION OF THE CARIBBEAN;

12. WE REAFFIRM THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THE CARIBBEAN SEA, THE ROLE IT HAS PLAYED IN OUR HISTORY AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORT AS WELL AS ITS POTENTIAL FOR CONTRIBUTING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF OUR PEOPLES AND STATES, COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES. WE ARE THEREFORE DETERMINED TO ENSURE ITS PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION, ON AN ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND AND SUSTAINABLE BASIS, AS THE COMMON PATRIMONY OF ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE CARIBBEAN;

13. WE RECOGNISE THAT THE PRODUCTION AND CONSUMPTION OF ILLEGAL DRUGS, AS WELL AS NARCO-TRAFFICKING IN ALL ITS ASPECTS POSE A SERIOUS THREAT TO TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION. INDEED, IT ENDANGERS THE SOVEREIGNITY AND SECURITY OF EACH STATE. IN LIGHT OF THIS, WE PLEDGE TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITHIN THE REGION TO COMBAT THE DRUG MENACE WHICH SEEKS CONSTANTLY TO UNDERMINE GOOD ORDER AND SOCIAL STABILITY.

14. WE RECOGNISE THAT THERE IS SIGNIFICANT SCOPE FOR GROWTH OF TOURISM, TRADE AND TRANSPORTATION AS A MEANS OF ADVANCING DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC INTEGRATION WITHIN THE ACS REGION. WE RECOGNISE ALSO THAT THE FULL REALISATION OF THIS POTENTIAL IS CRITICALLY DEPENDENT ON OUR PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS BEING ABLE TO COOPERATE TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS AS WELL AS TO EXPLOIT THE SYNERGY IN THE THREE AREAS.

TO ADVANCE THIS PROCESS, WE AGREE TO ADOPT AND IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING PLAN OF ACTION:

PLAN OF ACTION

TOURISM

We affirm that the tourism industry constitutes the major vehicle of development for many of the States, Countries and Territories of the ACS and are aware that it is not only the single economic activity common to all, but also a priority economic sector for all our membership.

Keenly aware that tourism is a strategic industry which is operating in a highly competitive environment, we perceive the need for a regional tourism strategy that draws strength from co-operation without sacrificing the interest of individual States, Countries and Territories or the appeal of individual national tourism products. We are cognisant that our region has considerable advantages in tourism since we offer a product which is like the world in microcosm. Presented as a single tourism product, the ACS destination has the advantages of both diversity and economies of scale.

We recognise that tourism is an industry which is highly dependent on the environment and that the quality, competitiveness and sustainability of this sector are inextricably linked to the conservation of the Caribbean's human, natural and man-made environment.

We are conscious of the need to give prominence to tourism in the national planning process and to strengthen public sector/private sector co-operation in managing the tourism sector. We further recognise the industry's potential to create linkages with other economic sectors and to stimulate higher levels of economic growth and development in our States, Countries and Territories.

We therefore agree to:

With respect to Tourism Planning

(i) Ensure that tourism is fully integrated into our national planning process;

(ii) strengthen the role of regional and national organisations in the ACS States, Countries and Territories and to promote the incorporation of its members in the Caribbean Tourism Organisation (CTO), with the purpose of co-ordinating efforts in the development of tourism;

(iii) promote co-operation among all public and private sector tourism entities within the ACS Member States, Countries and Territories with a view to maintaining the Caribbean region as the preferred tourism destination.

With respect to Environmental Sustainability

(iv) Require the execution of appropriate levels of environmental impact assessment as a precondition of all tourism development projects;

(v) incorporate in our tourism policies measures that address issues of environmental sensitivity and national cultural heritage through educational and developmental programmes, and adopt and enforce appropriate legislation to encourage responsible practices in respect thereof;

(vi) consider the adoption of the Charter of Margarita approved at the Fifth CTO Ecotourism conference held in Margarita in June 1995, taking into account national legislation;

(vii) declare the Caribbean a "green area" and invite the appropriate regional and international agencies to co-operate with us to develop and implement programmes to achieve this objective.

With respect to Visitors' Safety

(viii) Adopt appropriate measures to provide for the safety of visitors with the objective of guaranteeing the development and growth of tourism;

(ix) develop crisis management and damage control strategies in the event of major natural disasters;

(x) strongly deplore the inappropriate use of Travel Advisories by non-ACS States with the purpose of reducing tourism competitiveness in ACS States, Countries, and Territories and to develop mechanisms by which Governments can monitor and respond to such Travel Advisories.

With respect to Regional Marketing

(xi) Promote the region as a single destination with unique national products and encourage the free flow of tourists to and within all ACS States, Countries and Territories. To this end, we shall establish, based on the successful public/private sector Caribbean Coalition on Tourism Marketing Programme for North America, broad-based regional marketing programmes and joint representation in the

major markets, including the intra Caribbean market, on a sustainable basis and develop, not later than the end of 1995, a financing arrangement to sustain this initiative. In order to facilitate the implementation of such Programmes, we will review and modify, as necessary, the structure of the Caribbean Coalition on Tourism.

With respect to Profitability

(xii) Promote tourism industry performance surveys for the ACS region on an ongoing basis and to seek financing from the public and private sectors to this end;

(xiii) develop appropriate policies to retain and attract investment and to improve the efficiency and competitiveness of the tourism sector of the region.

With respect to Human Resources

(xiv) Accept the offer of the Government of Mexico to establish a Regional Programme for education, training and research in sustainable tourism, based at the Universidad de Quintana Roo (Mexico), aimed at widening

efforts to develop human resources that will increase the competitiveness and quality of tourist services in the Caribbean region;

(xv) create within the next three months a Caribbean Tourism Education and Training Council, with the following terms of reference:

(a) to examine the manpower needs of the region and review the number and type of public and private sector institutions in the ACS region which are currently involved in tourism training;

(b) to ascertain what certification in tourism is available at all tourism training institutions throughout the ACS region and the extent to which they are acceptable and transferable between the various States, Countries and Territories and to create a directory of ACS wide travel and tourism institutions and professionals;

(c) to consider the adoption of the recommendations of the University of West Indies report on tertiary education in

tourism, with respect to expansion and rationalisation of institutions, transferability of credits, post graduate training in the region, language training and certification and the provision of financial support required for implementation;

(d) to find a co-ordination mechanism between the institutions of higher education to deal with setting and monitoring of educational standards and levels of certification, within the colleges and universities in the region;

(e) to establish job performance standards leading to the certification of knowledge and skills of professionals, which is recognised throughout the region and which will facilitate the free movement of tourism professionals, in accordance with the legislation currently in force in each country;

(f) to examine the offer from the Government of Mexico with a view to ensuring that it complements the existing programmes.

With respect to Financing

(xvi) Establish a task force in order to prepare a detailed draft proposal for a Caribbean Regional Tourism Development Fund which shall be submitted to the next meeting of the ACS Council of Ministers. It would include, if necessary, the Fund's legal, administrative and management structure, as well as its relations with the Multilateral Financial Institutions. No ACS State, Country or Territory shall be excluded for social or political reasons from any of the benefits of the Fund.

TRADE

We are convinced that greater trade and investment links among our States, Countries and Territories will provide new markets and create opportunities to improve our competitiveness globally.

We recognise that progress in trade facilitation and liberalisation will play a key role in enhancing our economic space but will require harmonisation of the rules and disciplines of trade, services and investment in our region.

We recognise however the complexities of liberalising trade and harmonising rules among States, Countries and Territories as diverse as those of the ACS region.

We agree to instruct the Secretariat of the Association of the Caribbean States to:

With respect to Trade Liberalisation

(i) Promote measures for the economic integration including trade liberalisation, investments, transportation and other related areas among the ACS Members;

(ii) assist member countries, in collaboration with other relevant regional organizations, in the ongoing process of negotiations for trade liberalization and integration at the regional, hemispheric and global levels;

(iii) collect and disseminate among the members of the ACS information regarding the Marrakesh Agreement Establishing the World Trade Organization (WTO) on its implementation in each ACS State with the aim of assisting the process of regional integration.

With respect to Trade and Investment Promotion and Facilitation

(iv) Promote and facilitate the active participation of the regional business community in trade and investment events, especially those that take place within the region;

(v) facilitate meetings of the national and regional public and private sectors to discuss and resolve, in practical terms, methods of sourcing within the region as many goods and services as possible for the hotels, cruiselines and other tourism facilities;

(vi) devise schemes to encourage tourism enterprises, to purchase increased levels of regional goods and services to be consumed by visitors;

(vii) design and implement a mechanism for the exchange of information on trade and investment patterns and opportunities, establish or improve the linkages among the various information systems and promote their use;

(viii) examine the possibilities of establishing a reciprocal payment and credit system among the ACS countries, taking into account existing systems, such as ALADI and the Central American Common Market.

With respect to Inter-Institutional Cooperation

(ix) Seek active participation in the activities of the group of "Secretariats of Regional and Subregional Integration and Cooperation Organisations" regarding the efforts toward harmonization of trade rules and regulations.

With respect to Follow-up and Implementation of the Action Plan

(x) We charge the Trade and External Economic Relations Committee of the ACS with following up and implementing the Trade Action Plan.

TRANSPORTATION

We recognise the importance of the principles of easy access and equal opportunity to affordable air and maritime transportation, and that they are indispensable for the economic integration among our States, Countries and Territories. The advancement of these principles can be greatly assisted by the liberalisation and facilitation of trade, the cost effective and easy movement of goods, services and people and the stimulation and promotion of investment among our States, Countries and Territories.

We also recognise that the development of a safe, efficient and effective transport system is an indispensable element in the facilitation of trade among ACS States, Countries and Territories as well as the movement of people throughout ACS region thus transcending the separateness of the past as well as for ensuring extraregional links and multi-destination possibilities in the framework of the actual agreements and relations among ACS States, Countries and Territories.

We are aware that there are myriad problems to be overcome in order to develop an effective transportation system and that given our resource constraints, services and facilities will have to be enhanced incrementally and through a variety of means.

We are conscious that the ultimate aim is to provide a sustainable, efficient, profitable, readily differentiated and significantly higher quality service to the travelling and cargo shipping communities at reasonable tariffs.

We therefore agree to:

With respect to Shipping Services

(i) Combine efforts of our public and private sectors to determine and meet the requirements for, and enhance the possibilities of, establishing Non-Vessel Operating Common Carriers (NVOCCs). In this regard, we will jointly examine the feasibility of pursuing the recommendation made in the CARICOM-Group of Three (G3) Transport Study, for the establishment of a Joint Government/Private Sector NVOCC on an ACS-wide basis;

(ii) discuss with the shipping lines, the nature of the inducement which would be required to provide service, from hub ports to secondary ports and to take the agreed measures which fall to the responsibility of the public sector;

(iii) promote the development of inter-modal transportation in the region which will bring new possibilities for maritime investments to make this service more efficient and competitive;

(iv) encourage the shipping lines to work together to expand the range of on-carriage arrangements among themselves and to make these more widely known to potential shippers;

(v) examine novel approaches to providing regular intra ACS commercial services, including the Venezuelan initiative of using a navy ship to transport commercial cargo to the small ports of the Eastern Caribbean.

With respect to the Provision of Port Services

(vi) Encourage and assist our Port Authorities and Worker Organisations to address the issue of port costs and efficiency through, **inter alia**, modernising payments and reward systems, training and redeployment of labour and the reduction of unnecessary bureaucratic requirements;

(vii) examine the future scope and role of the public and private sector in the provision of port services, with a view to ensuring the adoption of the most efficient and cost effective arrangements;

(viii) assist our port authorities to cooperate and collaborate more actively among themselves in the existing institutional arrangements such as the Inter-American Ports and Harbours Conference (IAPH), the Port Management Association of Eastern Caribbean States (PMAECS), the Central American Maritime Transport Commission (COCATRAM), the Caribbean Shipping Association (CSA) and the Permanent Technical Committee on Ports of the Organisation of American States (OAS). As a priority, we urge them to focus attention on:

(a) the simplification and streamlining of documentation requirements in our various ports to facilitate the movement of goods, services and people by sea, with specific reference to the provisions of the Convention on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic 1965, as amended;

(b) the identification of areas of cooperation to reduce costs and improve efficiency, particularly in minimising the time and costs to shippers and ship operators. In this

context, we encourage them to explore the possibilities of joint ventures and other forms of economic association in areas such as training, port facilities development and utilisation;

(c) the establishment of an appropriate Electronic Data Inter-Change (EDI) information system to link ports, shippers and shipping lines in the ACS region.

With respect to Air Transportation

(ix) Examine the regulatory and operational framework which exists within the ACS States, Countries and Territories including the nature and content of our bilateral air transport agreements, our obligations to our air carriers and the overall attitude of ACS States, Countries and Territories on contemporary significant air transport policy matters, as well as the need for adequate safeguards and safety nets for the protection of the ACS members as developing States, Countries and Territories;

(x) evaluate the potential air access benefits which could arise from the negotiation of certain air services agreements on a group basis using the Community of Interest Principle of International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO);

(xi) where feasible, give favourable consideration to the use of the Community of Interest Principle as a means of improving both intra and extra regional air access arrangements;

(xii) sensitise the authorities and management of airports to the economic benefits and convenience of improving facilitation by implementing the standards and recommended practices of Annex 9 of the Chicago Convention and other initiatives and to urge them to become more pro-active in this area;

(xiii) examine the scope for the removal of and take action where possible to eliminate or simplify visa requirements for intra-regional travel by residents of ACS States, Countries and Territories;

(xiv) encourage our aeronautical authorities to join and collaborate actively among themselves in the existing institutions such as the Latin American Civil Aviation Commission (LACAC);

(xv) encourage ACS airlines to develop regular contacts, in order to build on initiatives already in train to increase cooperation and enhance their competitiveness and viability and call on them to work towards:

(a) continuous improvements in the integration of intra-ACS airline schedules and route systems;

(b) facilitating the provision of, and equal access to, a unified reservation system to the market place. In this context, we suggest that the ACS airlines should as a priority, invite competitive tenders from the Computerised Reservation Systems (CRS) and Distribution Systems to host the schedules of ACS airlines as one unit using state of the art technology;

(c) adopting a joint approach for the acquisition of a common Yield Management Programme;

(d) exploring the possibilities of using Latin Pass or any other frequent flyer programme, as a vehicle for the full exploitation of a broad scope of functional cooperation programmes for ACS airlines;

(e) exploring the possibilities for fleet rationalisation and joint aircraft acquisition and joint approaches to financial sources for all ACS States, Countries and Territories;

(f) enhancing cost effectiveness by undertaking negotiations in such areas as Engineering and Maintenance Management Information Systems (EMMIS); insurance placement; duty free programmes; crew hotel accommodation; and general management information systems;

(xvi) discuss with airlines, the nature of the inducement which would be required to provide service from hub airports to secondary airports and take the agreed measures which fall to the responsibility of the public sector.

With respect to the Safety of Air and Sea Craft and related Port Facilities

(xvii) Identify the critical international conventions relating to ships and shipping operations and to implement these conventions as early as possible within an agreed harmonised framework, and take all other appropriate steps, in conjunction with established regional and international programmes, to promote maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment of ACS States, Countries and Territories from vessel sourced pollution;

(xviii) examine the feasibility of broadening participation in the Draft Caribbean Agreement on Port State Control to include all ACS States, Countries and Territories;

(xix) give major attention to the issue of safety. In this context, we stress the necessity of promoting the implementation of the standards and recommended practices established by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO). We recognise ICAO as the overall authority on safety and its oversight and call on all State Parties to support ICAO's role in this area of its responsibility. To this end, we commit ourselves and will make every effort to attend the September 1995 ICAO General Assembly and to jointly reaffirm this principle at that forum;

(xx) work collectively towards the implementation of improved Air safety Oversight programmes where required, and urge ICAO to assist the efforts of ACS States, Countries and Territories in this matter;

(xxi) assist and support each other to the extent possible, in the relationship with other agencies to ensure that our airlines and aircraft receive fair treatment by these bodies.

With respect to Human Resources and Training

(xxii) Encourage greater collaboration among the relevant transportation related training institutions in order to increase the number of skilled personnel available for employment in the transportation industry;

(xxiii) explore the possibilities of providing fellowships to trainees from each other's States, Countries and Territories, and other mechanisms to promote practical training and attachments;

(xxiv) call on the International Maritime Organisation (IMO), the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) and other relevant agencies to provide technical assistance in the areas where requested.

With regard to the follow-up to and implementation of the Plan of Action

(xxv) Establish, within the framework of the ACS arrangements, a Technical Group on Transportation. This Group will develop specific programmes to promote the maritime, air and inter-modal transportation objectives outlined in this Plan of Action.

CROSS SECTORAL AND INSTITUTIONAL ISSUES

We recognise the opportunities inherent in the inter-relationship of the sectors of tourism, trade and transportation and the issues which are common to them. We accordingly agree to:

With respect to Information and Statistics

(i) Implement cooperative programmes to develop and strengthen our systems for the collection and dissemination of timely and accurate statistics on Tourism, Trade and Transportation.

With respect to Optimising Intersectoral Linkages

(ii) Request the ACS Secretariat to identify and propose concrete ways of achieving a greater inter-relationship between tourism, trade and transportation in collaboration with the relevant organisations with the objectives of increasing complementarities among the ACS States, Countries and Territories in those sectors and providing further impetus to the economic integration of the ACS members.

With respect to External Support

(iii) Request relevant regional, hemispheric and international agencies to assist our implementation by providing financial and technical assistance where required.

Done at Port-of-Spain, Republic of Trinidad and Tobago this Eighteenth Day of August 1995 in a single copy in the English, French and Spanish languages, each text being equally authentic.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the representatives duly authorised in that regard have signed this Document:

for the Government of
the Antigua and Barbuda

for the Government of
the Commonwealth of
The Bahamas

for the Government of
Barbados

for the Government of
Belize

for the Government of the Republic of Colombia

for the Government of the Republic of Costa Rica

for the Government of the Republic of Cuba

for the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica

for the Government of the Dominican Republic

for the Government of the Republic of El Salvador

for the Government of
Grenada

for the Government of
the Republic of
Guatemala

for the Government of the
Cooperative Republic
of Guyana

for the Government of
the Republic of Haiti

for the Government of the
Republic of Honduras

for the Government of
Jamaica

for the Government of the
Republic of Nicaragua

for the Government
of the Republic of
Panama

for the Government of the
St. Kitts and Nevis

for the Government of
Saint Lucia

for the Government of
St. Vincent and the
Grenadines

for the Government of
the Republic of
Suriname

for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

for the Government of the United Mexican States

for the Government of the Republic of Venezuela

In addition to the above States, the undermentioned States, Countries and Territories participating in this Inaugural Summit of the Heads of State and Government and Representatives of the States, Countries and Territories of the Association of Caribbean States, have signed this Document:

for the Government of Anguilla

for the Government of Aruba

for the Government of the French Republic (in respect of Guadeloupe, Guyane and Martinique)

sous réserve d'accord d'association des parties

for the Government of Netherlands Antilles

for the Government of the Turks and Caicos Islands