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Proposal for a revitalized Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee - Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Sustainable Development (CDCC-RCM)

Repositioning the CDCC-RCM as the
the Caribbean small island developing States (SIDS)
Mechanism for Sustainable Development



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Sustainable Development and Disaster Unit

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Acronyms

| | |
|---------------|---|
| ACS | Association of Caribbean States |
| AOSIS | Alliance of Small Island States |
| BPoA | Barbados Programme of Action |
| CARICOM | Caribbean Community |
| CDB | Caribbean Development Bank |
| CSD | Council for Sustainable Development |
| CDCC | Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee |
| CDCC-RCM | Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee, Regional Coordinating Mechanism |
| ECLAC | Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean |
| ECOSOC | Economic and Social Council |
| FAO | Food and Agriculture Organization |
| FDI | Foreign Direct Investment |
| GDP | Gross Domestic Product |
| HLPF | High-Level Political Forum |
| IFIs | International Financial Institutions |
| LAC | Latin America and the Caribbean |
| MSI | Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation of the Barbados Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States |
| NEPAD | New Partnership for Africa's Development |
| ODA | Official Development Assistance |
| OHRLLS | The United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and the Small Island Developing State |
| OECS | Organization of Eastern Caribbean States |
| RCM | Regional Coordinating Mechanism |
| SAMOA Pathway | Small Island Developing States, Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway |
| SDGs | Sustainable Development Goals |
| SIDS | Small Island Developing States |

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| SIDS/POA | Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States |
| TAC | Technical Advisory Committee of the CDCC-RCM |
| UNDESA | United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs |
| VNR | Voluntary National Review |
| WTO | World Trade Organization |

Abstract

The Small Island Developing States (SIDS) agenda for sustainable development has as its foundation the Barbados Programme of Action (BPoA 1994), the Mauritius Strategy for Further Implementation of the BPoA (MSI 2005) and more recently the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway 2014). These agreements representing 25 years of continual focus are the SIDS sustainable development blue prints.

There are other important global mandates that are consistent with the SIDS sustainable development agenda. Paramount among these are the Paris agreement on Climate Change and its accompanying financial architecture such as the Green Climate Fund; the Addis Ababa action Agenda, which speaks specifically to Financing for Sustainable Development; the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework, which focuses on the challenge of natural disasters; and the New Urban Agenda, which sets a new global standard for sustainable urban development.

With the objectives of positioning and maintaining a strategic SIDS focus across sustainable development agendas, this paper re-examines the Regional Coordinating Mechanism of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation (CDCC- RCM)¹ in its historical context and analyses recommendations put forth during recent meetings of the CDCC. In doing so, the paper makes the case that a revitalized CDCC-RCM could serve as a uniquely Caribbean Mechanism to promote sustained implementation of the SIDS sustainable development agenda in this subregion and provide preparatory support for the annual meeting of the Forum of Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development.

¹ Noting that there are other RCMs functioning outside of the Caribbean region, to indicate that this particular RCM under review is a body established by the CDCC, the abbreviations of the CDCC-RCM is retained for clarity.

Introduction

The economic, social and environmental challenges facing SIDS have been exacerbated since the need for specific attention to the vulnerabilities and challenges to sustainable development of the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) was articulated in Chapter 19 of Agenda 21. To effectively address these challenges, a synergistic and integrated approach to implementation of the economic, social and environmental components of sustainable development is essential.²

The SAMOA Pathway reaffirms the fundamental fact that SIDS remain a special case for sustainable development, in view of their unique vulnerabilities. This uniqueness is an important consideration which the international community and other developmental partners must embrace as the SIDS face continuing challenges in meeting their sustainable development goals.

At the Twenty First Session of the CDCC held in January 2006, the CDCC-RCM was accepted as a coordinating mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the development agenda outlined under the BPoA. This objective has been reaffirmed for the coordination of all subsequent development programmes including the MSI, the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other sustainable development agendas.³

² SAMOA Pathway (November 2014), paragraph 120

³ Comprehensive details of the CDCC-RCM can be found at, Review of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the implementation of the sustainable development agenda in the small island developing States of the Caribbean A proposal for consideration by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (2018), available at: https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/43313/1/S1701304_en.pdf

In keeping with current and emerging priorities for the Caribbean SIDS, this study argues to reposition the CDCC-RCM as The Caribbean Mechanism for Sustainable Development. This repositioned CDCC-RCM should be used as the tool to support the countries of the subregion in their implementation of an integrated sustainable development agenda as mandated by the principal development platforms relevant to the SIDS of the Caribbean. It should also assist member states in their preparation for participation in the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean for Sustainable Development.⁴ This restructured CDCC-RCM can also support member countries in further developing a SIDS perspective and in helping member states prepare for the High-Level Political Forum-Voluntary National Reviews on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It is envisioned that this repurposed CDCC-RCM will ensure that SIDS specific priorities are entrenched and consistently addressed within national, regional and global sustainable development portfolios. Such a unified mechanism should also reduce the reporting burdens and at the same time enhance coherence in implementing, evaluating, monitoring and reporting at country level across multiple agendas.

⁴ UN High Level Political Forum (May 2019), available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf>

I. Caribbean SIDS sustainable development agendas

The United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Agenda 21, Rio 1992) recognized SIDS as a special case for sustainable development.⁵ Twenty years later, the Rio +20 Outcome document– “The future We Want” (2012) reaffirmed the special case of SIDS. Rio+20 recognized the importance of coordinated, balanced and integrated actions to address the sustainable development challenges facing SIDS.⁶ All Caribbean countries are classified as SIDS.⁷

Achieving a SIDS focus within all sustainable development agendas requires implementation consistencies across national, regional and international platforms. These consistencies are best optimized when they are synergistic, cross-cutting, multi-sectoral and integrated. This will require established institutional arrangements with emphasis on planning monitoring, evaluation and reporting.

5 United Nations Sustainable Development (1992), available at:
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&nr=23&type=400&menu=35>

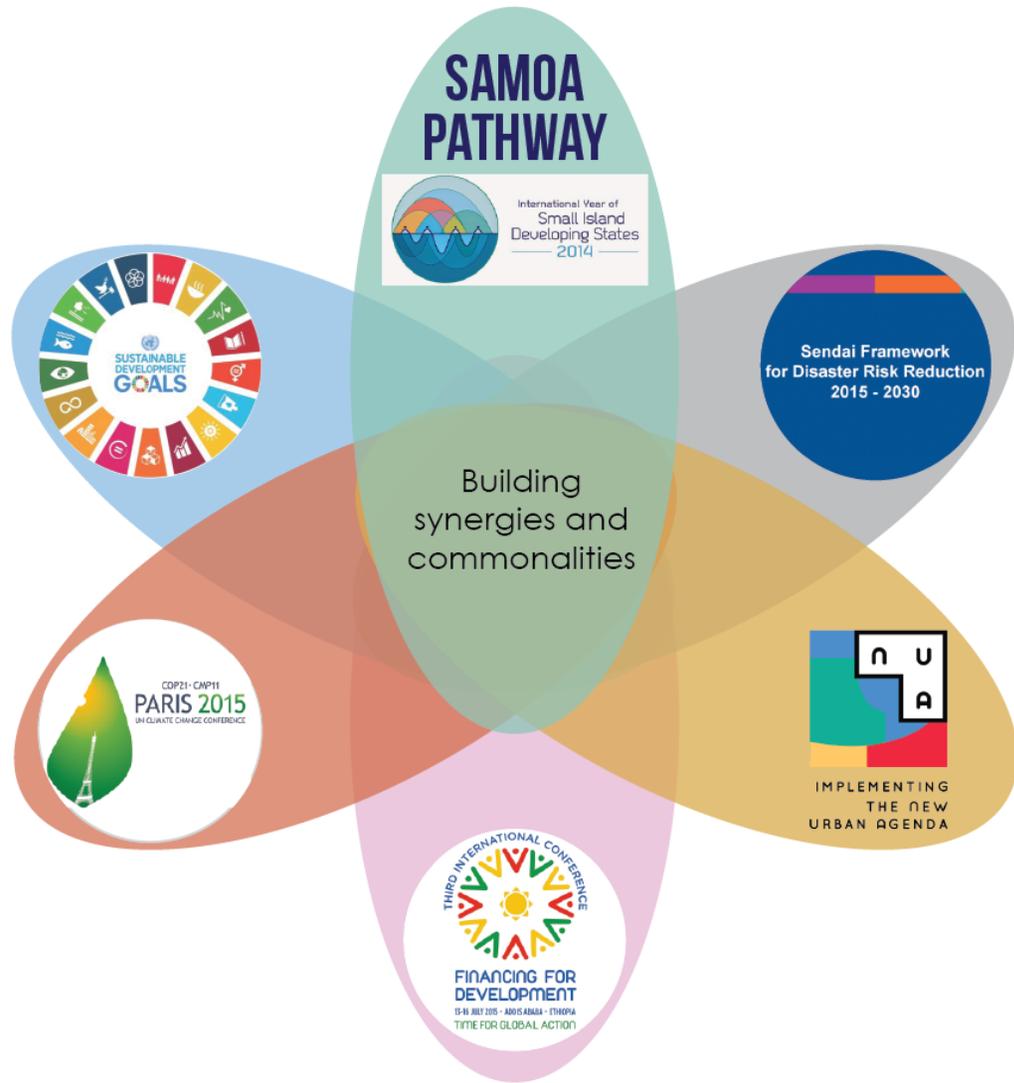
6 Future We Want-Outcome document (2012)
(<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?page=view&nr=23&type=400&menu=35>)

7 The Caribbean SIDS include the countries of Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname and Trinidad and Tobago. It also includes the territories of Anguilla, Aruba, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curaçao, Guadeloupe, Martinique, Montserrat, Puerto Rico, Sint Maarten, the Turks and Caicos Islands and U.S. Virgin Islands.

The SAMOA Pathway, the BPOA and the MSI⁸ are the vehicles through which SIDS sustainable development is negotiated and agreed at national, regional and international levels. At the same time the SIDS sustainable development agenda is consistent with the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, the Paris Agreement and the New Urban Agenda. This relationship is illustrated in Figure 1, which highlights the high levels of commonalities, comparability and opportunities for synergies between the SAMOA Pathway and other post 2015 sustainable development agendas.

8 SIDS Agenda includes: The Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States finalized at the Global Conference held in Barbados in 1994, known also as the Barbados Programme of Action (BPOA). This programme was reviewed and revamped at the five-year review held at the Twenty-second special session of the General Assembly in 1999, and the ten-year review held in Mauritius (January 2005). The latter outcome is known as the Mauritius Strategy for Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (MSI). In September of 2014, the international community met in Apia, for the Third International Conference on Small Island Developing States the outcome of which was the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action Pathway, commonly known as the SAMOA Pathway (cited May 2019), available at: <http://unohrlls.org/>

Figure 1
SAMOA Pathway Singular and Integrated Relations with other Post 2015 Sustainable Development Agendas



Source: Authors' interpretation (2019)

A. Strategic positioning of the Caribbean SIDS sustainable development priorities

The Caribbean must consider its unique strengths and weaknesses as it navigates the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Sustainable Development and other sustainable development agendas. In this regard, multilateral development cooperation will be critical. Moreover, addressing continuance of SIDS specific-sustainable development priorities will necessitate cross-cutting institutional and administrative arrangements aiming to actively engage all stakeholders- public, private and civil societies. This institutional restructuring will require localization, policy coherencies, multi-sectoral planning and financing.

Many SIDS have been facing serious foreign debt overhang challenges, which are compounded by the growing threat to eco-system services, and of climate change and natural disasters (Caribbean Outlook 2018). The differential impact of global external shocks cannot be ignored. Other factors such as limited technological capacity, volatility of Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) and domestic financial constraints, which lead to frequent debt distress, create the need to look closely at SIDS' specific development priorities. More recently, the Caribbean SIDS have had to address their mounting public debt problem, which was intensified after the global crisis of 2008-2009. Low growth and high debt repayment costs have limited the capacity of these countries to address resilient building strategies designed to alleviate their vulnerability (Caribbean Outlook 2018). For the SIDS, the use of per capita income as a basis for accessing concessional finance has had notable implications for financing economic, social and environmental developments.

The International Financial Institutions (IFIs) recognise the peculiar challenge of SIDS. In particular, the World Bank announced that it will review its policy on concessional finance for small states affected by natural storms and advance a Small Island States Resilience Initiative as part of resilience building (World Bank 2014). Such other initiatives as the ECLAC Debt for Climate Adaptation swap initiative represent an important departure from the traditional approach to debt reduction. It focuses on debt repayment at a lower cost while emphasising investing in green industries which is also a Climate Change adaptation strategy (Caribbean Outlook, ECLAC 2018b).

Stemming from the above, focus should be placed on how to navigate these tactical considerations within the context of the long-term strategic priorities of SIDS. It is suggested that the CDCC-RCM can serve for activating and redefining Caribbean SIDS sustainable development priorities while straddling all other mandates and benefiting from them.

B. Regional approaches supporting the Caribbean SIDS Sustainable Development Priorities (selected)

For small economies compounded by limited institutional capacities, achieving the purpose of the post 2015 sustainable development agendas will require coordination, monitoring and reporting of actions at the level of the subregion. As prescribed under the 2030 Agenda-implementation mechanisms, such joint actions would be required in terms of policy orientation; coordination of institutions and sectors; mobilization and spending of resources; capacity building; management of partnerships; monitoring, evaluation and reporting; and coordination of international cooperation (ECLAC 2017).

The burden of multi reporting frameworks notwithstanding, the need for the design of a monitoring and accountability framework and of tools adapted to monitor and report on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and other sustainable development mandates was recognized and recommended in the UN resolution 72/217.⁹ Further, the United Nations system organizations are tasked with helping to design these monitoring tools highlighted the importance of adapting monitoring and accountability frameworks in all contexts, including those of SIDS.¹⁰

At the Sixth Session of the Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD, 1998) the role of regional bodies in supporting the SIDS was tabled. The CSD recognized the necessity for regional organizations and institutions to play a strong and effective role in the implementation of the Programme of Action in SIDS regions. The CSD noted that the work of existing regional organizations and institutions may need to be strengthened or supplemented where gaps are identified (CSD, 1998).

In the Caribbean, as in other regions, there are various bodies tasked with the implementation, monitoring and reporting of sustainable development agendas. The governing structure of these bodies can vary and may include for example UN agencies, civil societies, government entities or a combination of these. Selected examples of these bodies can be found in Annex 2, Table 2.

Within the context of examining regional approaches to support sustainable development, ECLAC has tabled that the integrated approach implicit in the SDGs requires increased intersectoral and inter-agency coordination (ECLAC 2018b). The need to have a systematic and coordinated regional approach to support the implementation of these sustainable development agendas has also been addressed at various inter-governmental meetings.

The following recent intergovernmental meetings show the roles of regional bodies in supporting an integrated approach for addressing SIDS sustainable development priorities:

- (i) The Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC, April 2018)¹¹ in its Resolution 100 (XXVII) reaffirms its commitment to fully operationalize the CDCC- RCM and with a view to monitoring and supporting its role in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda (see Annex 1)
- (ii) Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway (2015-2018)
 - i. San Pedro Declaration: At the Caribbean Midterm Review of the SAMOA Pathway (San Pedro, August 2018)¹², the recommendation was taken that the CDCC-RCM once fully functional, can serve as a natural institutional home for the monitoring, reviewing and reassessment of priorities in the implementation of SIDS sustainable development

9 Resolution 72/217: Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States (September 2016), available at: http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/72/217

10 Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Report of the Secretary-General- Advanced unedited copy of the report (cited April 23, 2019), available at https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/221852019_SG_Report_SAMOA_Pathway_Advance_unedited_copy.pdf

11 Twenty-Seventh Session of CDCC, Resolution 100 (XXVII) Ensuring Synergy in The Implementation of The Sustainable Development Goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and The Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action in The Caribbean Subregion (April, 2018), available at: https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/events/files/lcar2018_02.pdf

12 SAN PEDRO DECLARATION Caribbean Regional Preparatory Meeting, San Pedro, Belize, (August 2018) available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/20630San_Pedro_Declaration_final_version.pdf

agendas. In fact, the San Pedro meeting called for the revitalisation of the CDCC- RCM, with a view to advancing political advocacy on SIDS issues at the regional level, facilitating SIDS-SIDS cooperation and spearheading implementation of the SAMOA Pathway in a coherent and effective manner.

- ii. Apia Outcome Inter-Regional Meeting for the Mid-Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway Apia, Samoa (November 2018). From this meeting the role of regional mechanisms supporting the implementation of the SIDS sustainable development portfolios listed on the: strengthening national and regional enabling mechanisms for SIDS sustainable development including an effective monitoring and accountability framework for the SAMOA Pathway and that an effective monitoring and evaluation framework is essential for achieving a results-based, sustained and cohesive approach for the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway. This same meeting stressed on the strengthening of Regional and Sub-regional Coordinating Mechanisms, which will enable data generation, statistical analysis knowledge management, education, communication and outreach activities, to support the effective, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway.¹³
- iii. UN- OHRLLS: SIDS National Focal Point (NFP): The NFP network of SIDS national focal points has as its purpose to enhance the coherence of SIDS issues in UN processes, including at the national, regional and global levels, by providing a vital link between the global and national levels facilitating coordination, information sharing and planning on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).¹⁴ In the delivery of the functions, the NFP, are expected to participate in regional forums, to foster coherence of SIDS issues in UN processes, and serve as an interface between the global and regional processes.
- iv. The Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development was formed using existing platforms and mandates, thereby minimizing the duplication of efforts and the formulation of additional structures or arrangements. It interacts with States, civil society and the private sector reporting upwards to the UN-High-Level Political Forum (UN-HLPF) which operates under the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations. This Regional Forum was deemed a necessary mechanism for the review of the implementation of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including the SDG and targets along with the means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. ECLAC serves as the secretariat of this Forum. (ECLAC 2016).
- v. UN-HLPF and Voluntary National Reviews (VNR)¹⁵: The HLPF is the United Nations central platform for follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals. The Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) are intended to track progress in implementing the 2030 Agenda,

¹³ Apia Outcome Inter-Regional Meeting for the Mid-Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway Apia, Samoa (30 October to 1 November 2018), available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/21058Final_Samoa_Outcome.pdf

¹⁴ SIDS National Focal Points (November 2018), available at: http://unohrlls.org/custom-content/uploads/2018/10/SIDS-_National-_Focal_Points_Action_Plan_OHRLLS.pdf

¹⁵ UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, Voluntary National Reviews (cited May 2019), available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>

including the SDGs and targets, in all countries, in a manner that respects their universal and integrated nature and all dimensions of sustainable development. The voluntary national reviews (VNRs) aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences, including successes, challenges and lessons learned, with a view to accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The VNRs also seek to strengthen policies and institutions of governments and to mobilize multi-stakeholder support and partnerships for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

II. The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee-Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Sustainable Development (CDCC-RCM)

The CDCC: Pursuant to resolution 358(XVI) of 1975, the CDCC was created as a permanent subsidiary body of the Economic Commission of Latin America and the Caribbean to promote development cooperation among Caribbean countries. Article 4 of this same resolution included that one of the functions of the CDCC shall be to coordinate and execute pertinent activities in conjunction with CARICOM and in the implementation of the actions derived from the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of the SIDS (CDCC, 1975).

The objectives of the CDCC are:

- To promote and strengthen economic and social cooperation and integration among the countries of the Caribbean and with Latin America
- To promote the sharing of information and experiences among its membership
- To promote common positions and strategies on economic and social issues among Caribbean nations, and on their relations with third countries, and to present those positions to international forums and agencies

The CDCC twenty-first session noted that this regional body plays a vital role as an umbrella organization that linked the sub-region, its partners in other regions and the United Nations systems and as a mechanism for coordinating United National support for the Caribbean region. At this same meeting and pursuant to resolution 65(XXI), the member countries set up a Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) to coordinate activities to support the implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the further implementation of the Programme of Action for Small Island Developing States (ECLAC 2006). The RCM to date has retained its purpose in supporting the implementation of the sustainable development agendas, with the current attention being placed on the SAMOA Pathway, 2030 Agenda and other post 2015-sustainable development agendas (see Annex 2 following on the 27th Session of the CDCC (April 2018).

A. Review of the Current Status of the CDCC-RCM for Sustainable Development

1. The CDCC-RCM Objectives

Functioning as a regional body, the CDCC-RCM was established to serve the Caribbean countries in the advancement of SIDS sustainable development agendas. It was first proposed for monitoring development progress of Caribbean SIDS under the BPoA and subsequent the MSI (ECLAC 2018a). These objectives were to be attained through coordinated activities at national, regional and international levels, whereby the CDCC-RCM was to function as a clearing house, a central hub for the

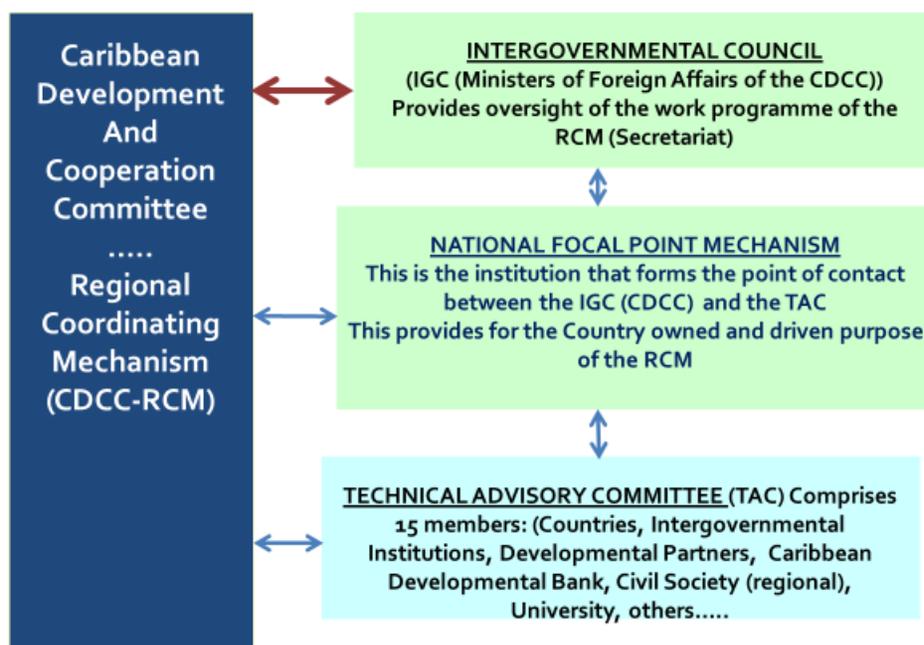
management of databases, and a convener of ad hoc meeting related to the implementation of Caribbean SIDS sustainable development priorities.

The CDCC- RCM's structure which was designed to be country-led and driven is detailed as follows:

- Intergovernmental Council (IGC) comprising the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the CDCC, which provides the highest level of oversight of the CDCC-RCM operation.
- Technical Advisory Committee (TAC): It was proposed that the TAC be country driven, and that it comprises of four CDCC- member countries, four intergovernmental institutions; one representative of civil society; three development partners – the Caribbean Development Bank and two others¹⁶; and three regional agencies – the University of the West Indies and two others. Together, these entities constituted the 15 members of the TAC. This membership was to be rotated to complement the thematic areas being addressed regionally on a bi-annual basis. ECLAC, in its capacity as secretariat to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), would communicate with these Ministers at Ministerial as well as at the CDCC Monitoring Committee meetings. ECLAC would also have contact with these Ministers through country specific national focal points who would function outside the ambit of the CDCC.
- National Focal Point Mechanism (NFPM) was designated to ensure continuity and consistency. To secure this commitment at the national level, it was suggested that the roles and responsibilities of the NFPM should be articulated as part of the formal duties and responsibilities of the respective institutions responsible for the SIDS implementation.
- The CDCC-RCM Secretariat was intended as the coordinating centre serving as a technical unit to the IGC implementing the work of the CDCC-RCM. It was to be housed within the ECLAC subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and suitably staffed (ECLAC, 2006).

Figure 2
Current Structure of the CDCC- RCM

¹⁶ The member States, as the Intergovernmental Council would recommend the other two development partners and regional agencies would be recommended by the member States.



Source: ECLAC 2018a

2. Status of the CDCC-RCM

To date the CDCC-RCM has been operating based on its links as a body established by the CDCC and with ECLAC serving as Secretariat to the RCM-TAC. The CDCC continues to assign responsibilities to the CDCC-RCM and with the most recent being at the Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee through the resolution on "*Ensuring Synergy in the Implementation of The Sustainable Development Goal of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and The Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action in The Caribbean Subregion*" (CDCC, April 2018).¹⁷

The objectives and purpose of the CDCC-RCM as approved by the CDCC is still relevant today. However, the continued institutional functionality of the CDCC-RCM has not been realised. Factors that impede the continued functioning of the CDCC-RCM include: absence of approved governing rules for having a CDCC-RCM Secretariat, rules for appointment of members and working committees, financing/budgeting and reporting. In the case of the appointment of members functioning as RCM-National Focal Point Mechanism, this function should have been vested in institutions rather than in persons thereby providing for national ownership and continuity. Table 1 provides a summary of additional challenges on the current structure of the CDCC-RCM.

Table 1
Review of the Operations and Status of the CDCC-RCM for Sustainable Development

¹⁷ Report of the twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (April, 2018), pp 19-22, available at: https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/events/files/lcar2018_02.pdf

| Operation of CDCC- RCM | Function | Status |
|---|--|--|
| CDCC-RCM Secretariat | To function as the coordinating centre serving as a technical unit to the IGC implementing the work of the CDCC-RCM | There is no officially approved/ designated CDCC-RCM Secretariat. |
| Evaluation, Monitoring and Reporting mechanism of the RCM | The CDCC-RCM currently reports to the CDCC. | As a subsidiary body of ECLAC, the CDCC reports are transmitted via ECLAC to the General Assembly of the United Nations. The CDCC engagement with the CDCC-RCM has been largely cursory for example limited to the extent of receiving the bi-annual reports |
| Appointment of members, and sub-committees | The national representation of the CDCC is through member country-Ministry of Foreign Affairs. | Under the current structure there are no formalized guidelines and rules of procedure for managing the operations of the CDCC-RCM. |
| Links to regional and international bodies | CDCC-RCM envisaged functional linkages with all regional and international development agencies invested in development in general, and the SIDS development agenda. | Recent intergovernmental reports on referred to this body in supporting the continued implementation of the SIDS sustainable development agendas. These were for example the 27 th meeting of the CDCC and the SAMOA Pathway midterm review. |
| Institutional Arrangements | Limited structured institutional mechanisms. | ECLAC is the Secretariat of the RCM-TAC. Most recent meeting of the TAC has held in April 2018 ¹⁸ . There are no other CDCC-RCM institutional arrangements. |
| Financial | No dedicated budget for the CDCC-RCM. | ECLAC as the Secretariat of the TAC- convenes periodic meetings using internal resources. There are no other financial resources assigned to the CDCC-RCM |
| Communication and Outreach | No dedicated existing function of the CDCC-RCM on this item | ECLAC maintains and updated information of the CDCC-RCM at: https://www.cepal.org/en/headquarters-and-offices/eclac-caribbean/committees |

Source: Authors' interpretation, 2019

In keeping with the outcomes from recent inter-governmental meetings, the following section seeks to provide arguments for a reconstituted and rejuvenated CDCC-RCM.

¹⁸ Report of the Last meeting of the RCM TAC can be found at: [repository.eclac.org/bitstream/handle/11362/43739/lcar2018_06_es.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y](https://www.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/43739/lcar2018_06_es.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y) Report of the seventh meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the RCM (2018), available at:

III. Repositioning the CDCC-RCM as the Caribbean Sustainable Development Forum

Evolved multilateral frameworks in the form of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, and other post 2015 agendas have necessitated a review of the RCM (ECLAC 2018). The urgency for the design of a monitoring and accountability framework and tools adapted to the capacity of SIDS to monitor and report on the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and other sustainable development agendas, while also avoiding the burden of multi reporting frameworks, was recognized and recommended in the SAMOA Pathway Midterm review.¹⁹

This continued absence of an appropriate and consistent system of monitoring, implementation and measuring progress could inter alia be factors that inhibits meaningful, strategic analysis of the Caribbean SIDS sustainable development priorities. Regional strategic analysis of SID-specifics, commonalities, synergies and trends in implementation of the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other sustainable development agendas could better surface with a country driven, agreed monitoring, evaluation and reporting framework.²⁰ This approach can also serve to be a data driven, systematic and

¹⁹ Advanced unedited copy of the report (UNGA 74, 2019): Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Report of the Secretary-General (cited May 2019), available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/221852019_SG_Report_SAMOA_Pathway_Advance_unedited_copy.pdf

²⁰ Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Report of the Secretary-General- Advanced unedited copy of the report (cited April 23, 2019), available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/221852019_SG_Report_SAMOA_Pathway_Advance_unedited_copy.pdf

results based analytical approach to reporting. Nationally, this can also support building institutional and human resources capacities and further reducing the reporting burdens across agendas.

A. Repositioning CDCC-RCM, as the Caribbean Mechanism for Sustainable Development

In seeking to ensure a more visible and strategic positioning of the specific challenges and priorities pertaining to the sustainable development of Caribbean SIDS, this section argues for a repositioned CDCC-RCM. Drawing from the current structure, it is proposed that the new structure of the CDCC-RCM be streamlined from national to sub-regional, unto the regional and then global sustainable development platforms. It is also suggested that this repositioned structure should have agreed procedures for working with existing systems such as the OHRLLS SIDS-NFP and other UN Offices responsible for sustainable development.

The purpose of repositioning the CDCC-RCM is to ensure that the SIDS Agenda be consistently represented at national, regional and international platforms for sustainable development. It will also provide for the streamlining of national sustainable development priorities into the Caribbean SIDS strategies, the Latin America and the Caribbean Forum on Sustainable Development (LAC Forum), and then to the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF). At the HLPF and through the VNRs, the RCM can be additionally instructive on SIDS specific vulnerabilities and challenges for sustainable development. Given that ECLAC is the Secretariat of the LAC Forum, under this arrangement, ECLAC (through its Sub-regional Headquarters for the Caribbean) could continue to play its role as Secretariat of the CDCC-RCM - functioning as the Caribbean Forum on Sustainable Development.

In this context, At the 27th Session of the CDCC (St. Lucia, April 2018), it was noted that meetings such as the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development offered important opportunities for peer review, sharing and exchanging experiences, regional partnership and solidarity in bringing the special needs of Caribbean small States to the attention of the wider international community for redress (ECLAC 2018). Figure 3 below indicates a possible linkage point of the CDCC-RCM to the wider Latin America and the Caribbean Forum on Sustainable Development and to the UN-HLPF.

Figure 3
Proposed linkage points of the CDCC-RCM to multilateral development framework



Source: Authors' interpretation (2019)

B. Requirements for a repositioned CDCC-RCM as Caribbean SIDS Mechanism for Sustainable Development

The implementation of the above proposal will require enhanced operational and reporting elements of the CDCC-RCM and to be decided at the highest level of the CDCC. A new mandate including agreements for management of this revitalised and repositioned CDCC-RCM will have to be obtained from the CDCC.

The new mandate should also seek to foster clear linkages with intergovernmental coordinating bodies, UN-agencies, developmental partners including north/south, SIDs-SIDs, south/south and triangular cooperation. This approach will facilitate the sharing of lessons learnt, best practices, technical and human resources, and the brokering of joint negotiating positions on matters pertinent to SIDS in the multilateral arena. This will also have to include agreements on engagement with the LAC Forum on Sustainable Development. This new structure will have to agree on the administration mechanisms, financing and the roles and responsibilities of member countries, regional intergovernmental bodies such as CARICOM, ECLAC and other developmental partners.

To provide for the functioning of the repositioned of the CDCC-RCM, the following key prerequisites are to be agreed to by the CDCC.

- A revised and agreed CDCC-RCM Rules of establishment, membership and operations.
- An established institutionally positioned CDCC-RCM Secretariat including assignment of the body having the responsibility for its continued operations and management.
- Rules of engagement with intergovernmental bodies for example with the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean Forum on Sustainable Development and the UN-High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.
- Rules of engagement with the private sectors and civil societies.
- To have established institutional and financing arrangements for the operations of the repositioned CDCC-RCM and that of the CDCC-RCM secretariat. This is critical for its sustainability and continuity. Such seed financing should provide the basis by which the CDCC-RCM could ultimately undertake its own resource raising in the form of donor-funded projects
 - Including Institutional Strengthening and Capacity-Building of CDCC Member Countries for mainstreaming (including assessment and reporting) on sustainable development into national regional and international sustainable development policies, plans and programmes
- Proposed Rules for the CDCC-RCM Secretariat including but not limited to:
 - Establishment of institutional and financial functioning on the CDCC-RCM Secretariat
 - Management of scheduled CDCC-RCM meetings, thematic workshop planning, delivery and follow-up requirements with member countries, inter-regional bodies, UN Agencies and other partners.
 - Reporting requirements to the CDCC, the Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean Forum on Sustainable Development and other bodies supporting the Caribbean SIDS agendas.,
 - Monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements: The work of the CDCC-RCM in monitoring and coordinating progress towards of the SIDS sustainable development agendas could be significantly enhanced using a digital platform for the sharing of key data and information among Caribbean SIDS. This is opportune as SIDS countries will be implementing the next five years of the SAMOA Pathway and to be guided from the outcome of the upcoming UNGA 74 Session (September 2018)²¹. Concurrently, as countries implement the 2030 Agenda, the mainstreaming into the national strategy is paramount. In the context of the proposed national and multinational institutional infrastructure for the implementation of the SDGs, the requirements of the CDCC-RCM could be incorporated into this infrastructure, thereby obviating the need for additional independent data platforms for the exclusive use by the CDCC-RCM.

²¹ SAMOA Pathway. High level Midterm Review 2019, September 2019 (cited May 2019), available at: <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sids/samoareview>

- Communication and outreach. These activities and assigned resources are to be dedicated on recognizing that the SIDS Agenda is an overarching framework for guiding national, regional and international development efforts to achieve the sustainable development of SIDS.²²
 - A reporting mandate including financial to the CDCC and other bodies as per the revised/revitalised CDCC-RCM resolution.
- Proposed Time lines in preparation for the 28th Meeting of the CDCC. This is detailed in Table 2 following

Table 2
Proposed time line for a CDCC resolution on a Revitalised and Repositioned CDCC-RCM

| Activity | Time Schedule | Responsible Body |
|--|----------------------|---|
| RCM- Technical Advisory Regional workshop for proposing a Revitalised and Repositioned CDCC-RCM | September 2019 | ECLAC |
| Drafting of Resolution for consideration to the 28 th CDCC (2020) | November, 2019 | ECLAC and Members of the RCM-TAC, other partners |
| Submission to the 28 th CDCC for consideration the draft Resolution for a Revitalised and Repositioned CDCC-RCM | March 2019 | ECLAC as Secretariat to the CDCC |
| Implementation of the decisions of the 28 th CDCC on the revitalised and repositioned CDCC-RCM | -to be advised- | ECLAC as the Secretariat to the CDCC and based on the CDCC decision |

22 Apia Outcome Inter-Regional Meeting for the Mid-Term Review of the SAMOA Pathway Apia, Samoa 30 (October – 1 November 2018), item 3, page 3, available at: file:///C:/Users/adubrie/Documents/CDCC%20Mon%20Com%202019/21058Final_Samoa_Outcome%20(1).pdf

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2004. LC/CAR/L.15 "Report of the Twentieth Session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC)"
2005. LC/CAR/L.50 "Issues in the Development of a Regional mechanism/Consultative
- ____ 2005. LC/CAR/L.65 "Report on the Caribbean Regional Meeting to follow up on implementation of the Mauritius Strategy"
- ____ 2006. LC/CAR/L.90/Rev.1 "Meeting of the Expanded Core Group for the Establishment of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the Implementation of the Mauritius Strategy"
2006. LC/CAR/L.86 "Report of the Twenty-first Session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee"

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- ____ 2018a "Review of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the implementation of the sustainable development agenda in the small island developing States of the Caribbean A proposal for consideration by the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee", available at: https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/43313/1/S1701304_en.pdf
- ____ 2018b.LC/SES.37/14/Rev.1 The Caribbean Outlook (2018), available at: <https://www.cepal.org/en/publications/43581-caribbean-outlook>
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Annexes

Annex 1

Table A1
SAMOA Pathway: Economic, Social and Environmental Pillar Aligned with the SDG Equivalent.²³

| Pillar | SAMOA Pathway Priority | SDG Goal |
|------------------------|---|----------|
| Economic | Sustained and Sustainable, inclusive and equitable economic growth with decent work for all | 8 |
| | Development and Poverty Eradication | 1 |
| | Sustainable Tourism | 8 |
| | Sustainable Energy | 7 |
| | Sustainable Transportation | 7 |
| Social | Food Security and Nutrition | 2 |
| | Water and Sanitation | 6 |
| | Health and Non-Communicable Diseases | 3 |
| | Gender Equality and Women Empowerment | 5 |
| | Social Development | 10 |
| | Culture and Sport ²⁴ | |
| | Promoting peaceful societies and safe communities | 16 |
| Environment | Education | 4 |
| | Climate Change | 13 |
| | Disaster risk reduction | 11 |
| | Oceans and Seas | 14 |
| | Sustainable consumption and production | 12 |
| | Management of Chemicals and waste, including hazardous waste | 6 |
| | Biodiversity | 15 |
| | Desertification, land degradation and drought | |
| | Forest | |
| Invasive Alien species | | |

²³ Adopted from the: Advanced unedited copy of the report (UNGA 74, 2019): Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Report of the Secretary-General (cited May 2019), available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/221852019_SG_Report_SAMOA_Pathway_Advance_unedited_copy.pdf

²⁴ It must be highlighted however, that due to overlap in categorization and focus, several priorities in the SAMOA Pathway do require their own measuring tool to ensure accurate assessment. Adapted from the Advanced unedited copy of the report (UNGA 74, 2019): Follow-up to and implementation of the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States Report of the Secretary-General (cited May 2019), available at: https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/221852019_SG_Report_SAMOA_Pathway_Advance_unedited_copy.pdf, pp5

Annex 2

Twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (April 2018): resolution on Ensuring Synergy In The Implementation Of The Sustainable Development Goals Of The 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development And The Small Islands Developing States Accelerated Modalities Of Action In The Caribbean Subregion²⁵

The Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee,

Reaffirming General Assembly resolution 70/1, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda)", which adopted the transformative, people-centered Sustainable Development Goals,

Recalling the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States¹¹ and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States¹², and the Small Island Developing States Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA Pathway),

Recalling also the General Assembly resolution 69/15 of 14 November 2014, which endorsed the SAMOA Pathway,

Bearing in mind the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (CDCC) resolutions 65(XXI) adopted at its twenty-first session in 2006, 71(XXII) adopted at its twenty-second session in 2008, and 74(XXIII) adopted at its twenty-third session in 2010, concerning the RCM, its Technical Advisory Committee and their role in supporting implementation of the Mauritius Strategy for the further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of small island developing States,

Recalling General Assembly paragraph 11 of its resolution 70/299 of July 2016 which urged the United Nations System to take effective measures to reduce the reporting burden of the small islands developing States through coherent, coordinated and effective linkages between the follow-up and review arrangements for the SAMOA Pathway, the 2030 Agenda and other internationally agreed outcomes,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 72/217 of 20 December 2017 on follow-up to and implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the Mauritius Strategy for the Further Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States that

²⁵ Report of the twenty-seventh session of the Caribbean Development and Cooperation Committee (April, 2018), pp 19-22, available at: https://www.cepal.org/sites/default/files/events/files/lcar2018_02.pdf

urged all partners to integrate the SAMOA Pathway into their respective cooperation frameworks, programmes and activities as appropriate, to ensure effective follow-up.

Recalling the Fifth Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee of the Regional Coordinating Mechanism (TAC/RCM) for implementation of the SIDS agenda held in Bogota on 5 March 2013, which sought to revitalize the role of the RCM in supporting the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, and to strengthen coordination and oversight in this regard,

Noting the outcome of the Seventh Meeting of the TAC/RCM of 23 March 2018 which underscored the importance of national coordinating mechanisms to support implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and 2030 Agenda while promoting integrated reporting responsibilities,

Acknowledging the need to enhance regional coordination in support of the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda in the small island developing States of the Caribbean by strengthening the national institutional framework for sustainable development and building partnerships,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to fully operationalize the RCM in the Caribbean, with a view to monitoring and supporting integration in the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and the 2030 Agenda;
2. Encourages its members to make every effort to mainstream the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway in their national development plans;
3. Further encourages more active pursuit of partnerships among Caribbean small island developing States and between them and other partners including through South-South and triangular cooperation;
4. Calls again upon its members, in this regard, to designate a national entity as the focal point for the RCM;
5. Requests the secretariat of the Commission, through its subregional headquarters for the Caribbean and in collaboration with the relevant agencies of the United Nations system and the Caribbean Community, to provide the institutional support to facilitate synergy in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the SAMOA Pathway at the national and regional levels;
6. Requests the Technical Advisory Committee to develop a strategy for the mobilization of resources with a view to providing sustained support for the work of the RCM.

Annex 3

Table A2
Selected Examples of Intergovernmental Regional Coordinating Bodies/ Mechanisms Supporting Sustainable Development

| Organization | Core Function (selected) | Relation to sustainable development of SIDS |
|--|---|---|
| United Nations in Latin America and the Caribbean- Led Bodies and Mechanisms | | |
| Forum of countries of Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) on Sustainable Development ²⁶ | This is a LAC regional mechanism with purpose to follow up and review the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, inclusive of the Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its means of implementation, and the Addis Ababa Action Agenda. | Cross-cutting on all subjects of Sustainable Development. ECLAC is to Secretariat and is guided by the principles established for all follow-up and review processes by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Goals. It is led by the Member Countries of LAC and engages the private sector and civil society, as well as subsidiary bodies of ECLAC, development banks, other United Nations agencies and regional integration blocs. This LAC Forum for Sustainable Development creates a platform for opportunities peer learning, including through of voluntary national reviews, the sharing of best practices and discussion of shared targets. |
| Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) in Latin America and the Caribbean ²⁷ | Monitors food security levels Assists in the design and implementation of hunger-eradication strategies, laws and programmes | Thematic Function: This agency's entry point is its focus on fighting hunger. |
| Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) ²⁸ | It is the specialized international health agency for the Americas. It works with countries throughout the region to improve and protect people's health. It engages in technical cooperation with its member countries to fight communicable and non-communicable diseases and their causes, to strengthen health systems, and to respond to emergencies and disasters. | Thematic function: It focus is to encourage technical cooperation among countries. It also advances to strengthening its capacity to promote types of cooperation as viable, effective, and sustainable tools for health development through a renewed policy. It fosters South-South cooperation (SSC) and Triangular Cooperation. |
| The United Nations Multi country Sustainable Development Framework (UNMSDF) ²⁹ | It is the business plan to guide the UN agencies, funds and programmes in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean for the period January 2017 to December 2021. | Cross cutting on all subjects of sustainable development: It supports the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the SAMOA Pathway and other international development strategies, and the national development plans of the individual countries in the English and Dutch speaking Caribbean. |
| RCM Bodies led by other UN Commissions | | |
| The Regional Coordination Mechanism for Latin America and the Caribbean of the UN | It is a framework for coordination aiming to fast track programme implementation system wide by the United Nations | Convened by ECLAC, it is a vehicle through which the United Nations System serving the LAC region coordinates towards fostering inter-agency |

²⁶ Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development, Available at : <https://www.cepal.org/en/topics/2030-agenda-sustainable-development/follow-and-review-2030-agenda>, accessed 12/4/2019

²⁷ Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), FAO regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, Available at: <http://www.fao.org/americas/acerca-de/es/>, accessed 12/4/2019

²⁸ Pan American Organization, world Health Organization (PAHO), Available at: https://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=91:about-paho&Itemid=220&lang=en, accessed 12/4/2019

²⁹ United Nations Caribbean, the Multi-country sustainable development framework, Available at: <http://www.2030caribbean.org/content/unct/caribbean/en/home/MSDF/overview.html>, accessed 12/4/2019

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| | | work and synergies and supporting sustainable development ³⁰ |
| Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Africa RCM-Africa ³¹ | It is a framework for coordination aiming to fast track programme implementation system wide by the United Nations. | It is the vehicle through which the United Nations System can enhance its response to provide support to the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) |
| Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinating Mechanism ³² | This mechanism focus is to strengthen cooperation on priority areas and specific action required by UN agencies with regional programmes in Asia and Pacific to promote regional cooperation among and between inter-governmental, civil society and other development partners. | It serves as a tool to implement the Secretary-General's global priorities inclusive of climate change, gender equality, health and combating the financial crisis and poverty at the regional level. |
| The Regional Coordinating Mechanism of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA) ³³ | This mechanism promotes strategic coordination and information sharing at the region and sub-regional level among UN entities and other regional and sub-regional partners. It focuses and promotes the collective action via the working groups and task forces. Ensures cohesiveness across United Nations agencies is supporting an aligning its work and promoting cooperation between UN system and League of Arab States | It supports the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) |
| Regional Coordinating Mechanism for the UN Economic Commission for Europe ³⁴ | Promotes cooperation among United Nations regional entities and their various partners om the region in addressing cross-cutting policy issues and provides regional perspectives to the global level | Joint UN System meeting and the issue-based collations serve as tools to assist in achieving the 2030 Agenda as a platform to facilitate cross-sectoral cooperation and as a bridge between the global and country level. |
| Intergovernmental Led Bodies | | |
| CARICOM ³⁵ | This organization is committed to changing minds to ensure the work of the Caribbean Community is robust and inclusive. It works to enable a community that works together to preserve the gains of regional integration and address the current challenges of economic recovery and growth and sustainable human development. | Through the first Strategic Plan for the Community 2015 - 2019 directly responses to the need focus on specific practical and achievable goals to advance the region's development agenda |
| Caribbean Forum of African Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM) ³⁶ | The Forum of the Caribbean Group of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States (CARIFORUM) is the body that comprises Caribbean ACP States for the purpose of promoting and coordinating policy dialogue, | It was established through the signing of the Georgetown Agreement in Guyana, in 1975 |

30 Improving the Governance and Coordination of The UN Development System: Statement of Ms. Alicia Bárcena, Executive Secretary Of ECLAC, In the Economic and Social Council Operational Activities for Development Segment.

(cited March 2017), available at: <https://www.cepal.org/en/speeches/improving-governance-and-coordination-un-development-system>

31 Regional Coordinating Mechanism for Africa, Available at: <https://www.uneca.org/regional-coordination-mechanism/pages/about-rcm>, accessed 12/4/2019

32 Asia-Pacific Regional Coordinating Mechanism, Available at: <http://www.unaprcm.org/> accessed 12/4/2019

33 The Regional Coordinating Mechanism of the Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia, Available at: <https://www.unescwa.org/about-escwa/regional-coordination-mechanism>, accessed 12/4/2019

34 Regional Coordinating Mechanism for UN Economic Commission for Europe, Available at: <https://www.unece.org/runcwelcome/about.html>, accessed 12/4/2019

35 Caribbean Community (CARICOM), Available at: <https://caricom.org/>. accessed 12/4/2019

36 Caribbean Forum of African Caribbean and Pacific States, Available at: <https://caricom.org/about-caricom/who-we-are/our-governance/about-the-secretariat/directorates/cariforum-directorate>. accessed 12/4/2019

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| | <p>cooperation and regional integration, mainly within the framework of the Cotonou Agreement³⁷ between the ACP³⁸ and the European Union and also the CARIFORUM-European Community Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA).</p> <p>Its main objectives includes of management and coordination of policy dialogue between the Caribbean Region and the European Union; and To promote integration and cooperation in the Caribbean.</p> | <p>Renegotiated and renewed three times³⁹. In 2000 the Lomé Convention was succeeded by the ACP/EU Cotonou Agreement⁴⁰,</p> <p>The Caribbean Forum of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (CARIFORUM) was therefore established as a political group in October 1992 to provide that forum for consultation.</p> |
| Association of Caribbean States (ACS) ⁴¹ | The objectives of the ACS include strengthening regional co-operation and integration process, enhancing the economic space in the region, preserving the environmental integrity of the Caribbean Sea and promoting the sustainable development of the Greater Caribbean. | To enhance cooperation within the region. Further, it thrives on its function as an organization geared towards consultation, cooperation and concerted action in the interest of its member countries. Its framework provides a forum for political dialogue through which member states can identify areas of common interests and therefore adopt a regional response through cooperation. |
| Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS) ⁴² | It is an International Inter-governmental Organization dedicated to economic harmonization and integration, protection of human and legal rights. It encourages good governance among independent and non-independent countries in the Eastern Caribbean. | The original treaty was revised establishing a single financial and economic space within which goods, people and capital could move freely. The organization ensures the synergizing of monetary and fiscal policies facilitating the adoption of a common approach to trade, health, education and the environment. It also advances special development issues including agriculture, tourism and energy. |
| Civil Society (Caribbean) Led | | |
| PANOS Caribbean ⁴³ | Its main area of work is to assist in empowering the most marginalized and vulnerable persons in the region. Its vehicle tis through projects and other activities related to children and youth, public health, media community & environment and gender. | Its mandate it to amplify the voices of the poor and the marginalized through the media, to ensure their inclusion in public and policy debate, enabling Caribbean communities and countries to articulate and communicate their own development agenda. |
| Caribbean Natural Resources institute (CANARI) ⁴⁴ | Promotes and facilitates equitable participation and effective collaboration in the management of natural resources critical to development in the Caribbean islands, lifting the quality of life, conservation of natural resources, using learning and research, capacity building, communication and fostering partnerships as its mode of raising awareness. | Promoting equitable participation and effective collaboration in managing the natural resources critical to development |
| Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) ⁴⁵ | As a non-profit organization dedicated to improving the quality of life of Caribbean young people by facilitating their personal development and promoting their full involvement in all matters | Responsible for creating an appropriate space for young people to participate in the design, development, implementation and promotion of new, progressive, equitable, innovative and |

37 Cotonou Agreement is a treaty between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States ("ACP countries"). It was signed in June 2000 in Cotonou, Benin's largest city, by 78 ACP countries (Cuba did not sign) and the then fifteen Member States of the European Union.

38 The ACP is a group of countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific that was created by the Georgetown Agreement in 1975. The group's main objectives are sustainable development and poverty reduction within its member states, as well as their greater integration into the world's economy. All of the member states, except Cuba, are signatories to the Cotonou Agreement with the European Union.

39 Lomé II (January 1981 – February 1985), Lomé III (March 1985 – 1990), Lomé IV (1990 – 1999).

40 Also known as the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement, as the main framework of cooperation between the parties.

41 Association of Caribbean States, Available at: <http://www.acs-aec.org/index.php?q=about-the-acs>, accessed 12/4/2019

42 Organization of the Eastern Caribbean States (OECS), Available at: <https://www.oecs.org/homepage/about-us>, accessed 12/4/2019

43 PANOS Caribbean, Available at: <http://panoscaribbean.org/about>, accessed 12/4/2019

44 Caribbean Natural Resources Institute (CANARI), Available at: <https://www.canari.org/>, accessed 12/4/2019

45 Caribbean Youth Environment Network, Available at: <http://cyen.org/about-us/>, accessed 12/4/2019

pertaining to the environment and sustainable development. It promotes education and training, Caribbean integration and community empowerment as tools to develop an ethic amongst young people that assists in the conservation and protection of natural resources within the Wider Caribbean.

sustainable environmental, economic and social development policies and programmes across the wider Caribbean.

