**Project: Caribbean Carnival Network**

Carnival in the Caribbean is a festival that enjoins all and sundry. But while it may be more prevalent in the small island Caribbean states, there are enjoyable Carnivals in many of the Central American countries which form a significant part of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS).

Since the historic and cultural patrimony shared by the States and territories of the ACS provide a solid basis on which to develop co-operative efforts, it would assist in taking concerted action in the areas of education, culture, science and technology. Such sharing of knowledge and know how can only have a multiplying and positive effect in the region and help in improving the important aspects of the festivals like marketing, and advertising of this tourism product, plus the generation of income for Micro, Small and Medium enterprises which work around this celebration all year round.

Carnival is not simply a source of income. It is also a means of encouraging solidarity among the Peoples of the Region. It is well documented that the Peoples of the region come from similar backgrounds, which brought many Peoples of different races from all over the world to these shores and such diversity is the source of the rich cultural heritage now the hallmark of the region. Increased collaboration in this cultural vineyard would serve to bring the people even closer as one Caribbean People.

Additionally, subtexts in this exercise could mean the arranging of seminars and conferences, books fairs all aimed at the exchange of knowledge, techniques and practices, thus enlarging the opportunities for job creation and development of particular artisan skills associated with Carnival.

***Overall objective:*** *To promote cooperation in the region in the area of culture and more particularly Carnival.*

***Specific Objectives:***

*• The organization of seminars, conferences, book fairs and exchanges with the aim of promoting cooperation and friendship between Member States in the area of culture. This will also serve to enhance the carnival product of countries involved.*

*• Develop a massive promotional campaign around the world to attract more international tourists*

*• Develop programmes to support Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and clusters of the productive industry*

*• Exchange and transfer of know-how and best practices and technology around the carnival celebration*