**Project: Sustainable Management of the Caribbean Sea**

The Caribbean Sea, that large body of water which washes the shores of many ACS Member and Associate Member States, is a fragile and complex marine environment. These countries, of varying sizes and populations and in different stages of economic development, are heavily dependent on this area for their social, economic, cultural, climatic, aesthetic and other benefits.

However, reliance on the Caribbean Sea to derive these benefits has served as the catalyst for the development of a number of debilitating phenomena on the sustainability of the marine environment and to that extent, recognition has been given to the need to develop strategies towards preservation of the Caribbean Sea to ensure its viability into the future.

The Caribbean Sea Commission (CSC) has to be established as a mechanism for the sustainable management of the Caribbean Sea in the Greater Caribbean Region. While this is the general objective of the CSC, there are two other specific goals -:

* To create awareness for the importance of the Caribbean Sea on a national, regional and international scale; and
* To establish the CSC as a source of information and mechanism for dissemination of critical information pertaining to the Caribbean Sea.

To ensure the realisation of these two goals, a massive awareness campaign has to be developed as well as a capacity building programme in sustainability of the fisheries industry, including micro and small and medium enterprises.

In the case of any awareness campaign however, there is need to establish a regional database and network for sustainable management of the Caribbean Sea, as well as a database of experts (investigators, researchers, consultants, studies, etc.) in the various fields pertaining to climate change and preservation of the Caribbean Sea. Such an awareness campaign should also be aimed at children as young as eight years, so they understand the need to reserve this vast marine area.

***General Objective:*** *Establish the CSC as a mechanism for the sustainable management of the Caribbean Sea in the Greater Caribbean Region.*

***Specific Objectives:***

*• Create awareness for the importance of the Caribbean Sea on a national, regional and international scale*

*• Establish the CSC as a source of information and mechanism for dissemination of critical information pertaining to the Caribbean Sea*