

OECS

Community Council) for a term not exceeding 5 years, and may be re-appointed. The Secretary-General is the Chief Executive Officer of the Community and acts in that capacity at all meetings of the Community Organs.

Institutions of the Community: Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA); Caribbean Meteorological Institute (CMI); Caribbean Meteorological Organization (CMO); Caribbean Food Corporation (CFC); Caribbean Environmental Health Institute (CEHI); Caribbean Regional Centre for the Education and Training of Animal Health Assistants; Association of Caribbean Community Parliamentarians (ACCP); Caribbean Centre for Development Administration (CARICAD); Caribbean Food and Nutrition Institute (CFNI).

Associate Institutions. Caribbean Development Bank (CDB); University of Guyana (UG); University of the West Indies (UWI); Caribbean Law Institute (CLI)/Caribbean Law Institute Centre (CLIC).

Headquarters: Bank of Guyana Building, PO Box 10827, Georgetown, Guyana.

Secretary-General: Edwin W. Carrington (Trinidad and Tobago).

Publications. CARICOM Perspective. (2 a year); Annual Report; Treaty Establishing the Caribbean Community.

Further Reading

Parry, J. H., et. al. A Short History of the West Indies. Rev. ed. London, 1987

ORGANIZATION OF EASTERN CARIBBEAN STATES (OECS)

Founded 1981 when 7 eastern Caribbean states signed the Treaty of Basseterre agreeing to co-operate with each other to promote unity and solidarity among the members.

Members. (1998) Antigua and Barbuda, Dominica, Grenada, Montserrat, St Kitts and Nevis, St Lucia, and St Vincent and the Grenadines. The British Virgin Islands and Anguilla have associate membership.

Functions. As set out in the Treaty of Basseterre: to promote co-operation among members and to defend their sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence; to assist member states in the realization of their obligations and responsibilities to the international community with due regard to the role of international law as a standard of conduct in their relationships; to assist member states in the realization of their obligations and responsibilities to the international community with due regard to the role of international issues, and to establish and maintain, where possible, arrangements for joint overseas representation and common services; to promote economic integration among members; to pursue these through its respective institutions by discussion of questions of common concern and by agreement on common action.

OECS's work is carried out through a number of specialized institutions, work units or projects in 7 countries. Main areas of interest include: natural resources and solid waste management; education reform, technical and vocational education; pharmaceuticals; trade and agricultural diversification; investment promotion; and civil aviation.

Headquarters: Morne Fortune, PO Box 179, Castries, St Lucia.

Director-General: Swinburne Lestrade.