

'Work towards the promotion of pan'

PAN Trinbago has called on the organisers of Expo '88 to work towards the promotion of steelband and not its exploitation.

In a press release, Pan Trinbago said they received word from several steelbands that the bands had approached the Export Development

Corporation (EDC) indicating that they wanted to play at the Fair.

The release said the band members were told that organisers were dealing with the steelband sponsors who will in turn be asked to make the bands available for performances.

Pan Trinbago described the move as "discriminatory" to the unsponsored bands, which it says, constitutes 80 per cent of its membership.

The release said the bands were being called upon to perform for "little or no charge." It said the bands are asked to play for \$900 when their overhead expenses amounted to \$1,300.

"The Export Development Corporation owe it to our nation to be the chief architect towards the proper promotion of the steelband as a revenue earner," stated the release.