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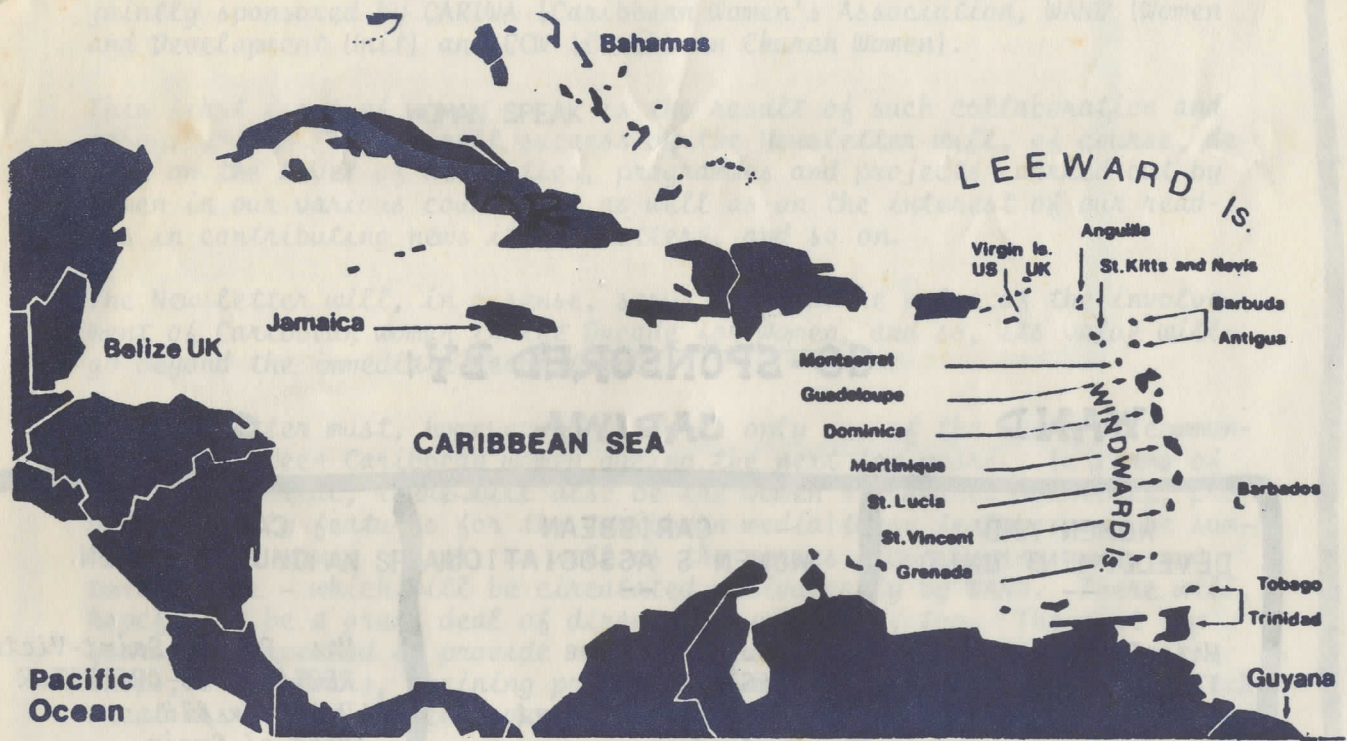
WEST INDIES COLLECTION

EDITORIAL



WOMAN SPEAK

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER FOR WOMEN



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No 1

JULY 1979

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CO-SPONSORED BY:

WAND

CARIWA

CCW

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EDITORIAL

The need for a Newsletter which would serve as a vehicle for keeping the Caribbean informed of what is happening in women's programmes and activities has long been recognised by women's groups.

CARIWA has been planning a Newsletter for some time now, and it seemed appropriate, in the spirit of co-operation and collaboration (which we hope will mark the Decade), to bring out a Newsletter which could be jointly sponsored by CARIWA (Caribbean Women's Association, WAND (Women and Development Unit) and CCW (Caribbean Church Women).

This first issue of **WOMAN SPEAK** is the result of such collaboration and co-operation. The overall success of the Newsletter will, of course, depend on the level of activities, programmes and projects carried out by women in our various countries, as well as on the interest of our readers in contributing news items, letters, and so on.

The Newsletter will, in a sense, serve to show the pulse of the involvement of Caribbean women in the Decade for Women, and so, its value will go beyond the immediate readership.

The Newsletter must, however, be seen as only one of the means of communication between Caribbean women during the next few years. In terms of printed material, there will also be the Women's Features Syndicate, providing weekly features for the Caribbean media (these features may be summarised for **WOMAN SPEAK**), as well as the series - Concerning Women and Development - which will be circulated periodically by WAND. There will, hopefully, be a great deal of direct communication, too. The next few years are expected to provide many opportunities for meetings at work - shops, study tours, training programmes, and through the exchange of technical assistance between countries of the Caribbean.

In relation to technical assistance, readers are invited to use the form on page 8 of this Newsletter to submit the names of one or more women who would like to share their skills, experiences and energy with other women in the Caribbean. WAND, in collaboration with CARIWA, will then follow this up, with a view to preparing a List of Resource Persons within the region whose services can be called on when the need arises.

This first issue of **WOMAN SPEAK** will present the various regional programmes which are now concerned with women in development. The information is based on the proceedings of the Media Seminar and Inter-Agency Meeting which were the launching pad for the new Extra Mural programme.

We hope to have your ideas and news for inclusion in **WOMAN SPEAK**. In particular, we invite Guest Editorials and columns, including contributions for a "DIALECT CORNER".

BACKGROUND OF WAND

SEMINAR IN JAMAICA

1 In June, 1977, the Extra-Mural Department of the UWI and the Jamaica Women's Bureau co-sponsored a regional seminar on *"The Integration of Women in Development"*, at the UWI in Jamaica. The seminar was financially and technically assisted by UNICEF. Attending were representatives of Caribbean governments, the UWI, UN bodies and regional and international agencies. They examined the needs of women in the region and identified areas where regional action might be appropriate. Their recommendations were contained in a *Regional Plan of Action for the Caribbean*, which was drawn up at the end of the seminar.

CARIBBEAN STEERING COMMITTEE

2 A Steering Committee was appointed by the Jamaica seminar to:-

- .. monitor progress in the implementation of the recommendations of the Plan of Action, at the regional level;
- .. work to establish a Woman's Desk at the Caricom Secretariat and a regional network for the achievement of the goals of the Decade for Women.

At its first meeting in October, 1977, the Committee confirmed its support for the appointment of a Co-ordinator of Women's Programmes -- a key recommendation of the Plan of Action.

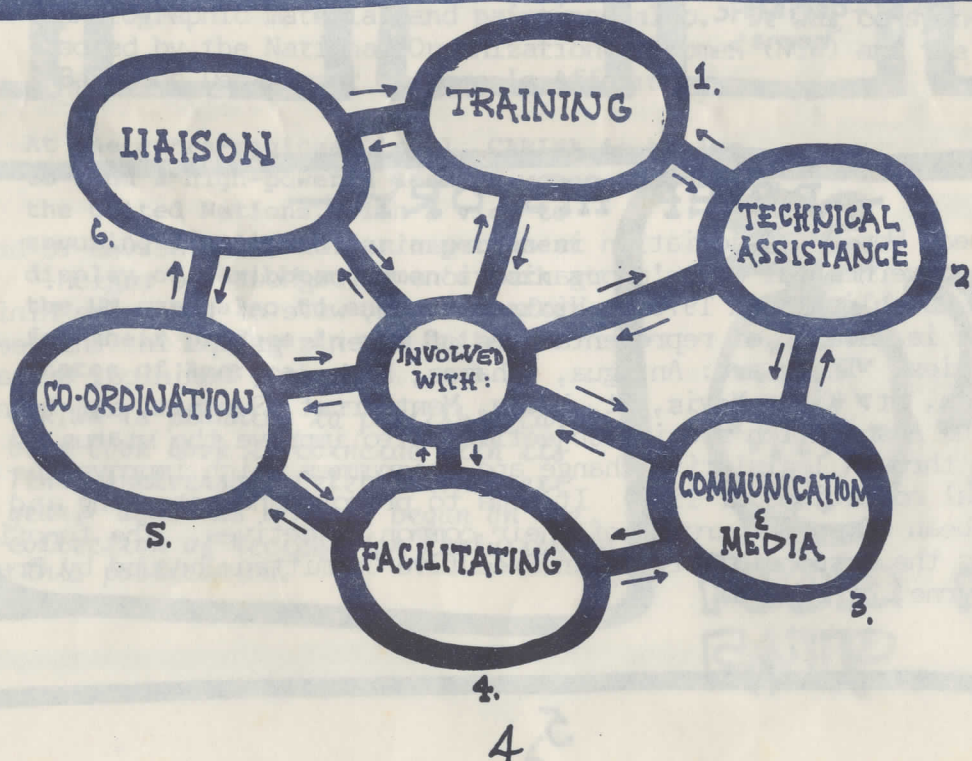
SETTING-UP OF WAND UNIT

3 A Tutor/Co-ordinator - Mrs. Peggy Antrobus - was appointed to head the Women and Development Unit, which was set up in Barbados in August, 1978, at the Extra-Mural Department of the UWI. Funds for the establishment of the Unit were provided for an initial two-year period by the Carnegie Corporation of New York. The main thrust of the programmes coming out of this Unit is on promotion and support of income-generating projects for women in Caricom Countries, with particular attention to the smaller territories. The Unit will also arrange a number of training seminars and workshops for women in development.

WAND PROGRAMME

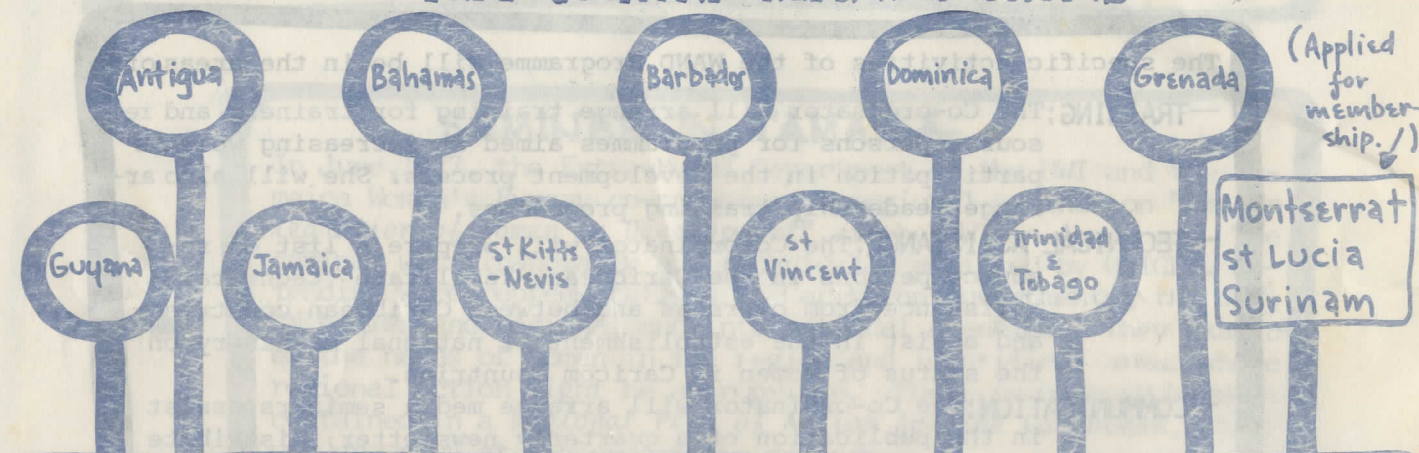
The specific activities of the WAND Programme will be in the areas of:

- TRAINING:** The Co-ordinator will arrange training for trainers and resource persons for programmes aimed at increasing women's participation in the development process. She will also arrange leadership training programmes.
- TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:** The Co-ordinator will prepare a list of resource persons in the Caribbean; facilitate technical assistance from overseas and between Caribbean countries; and assist in the establishment of national machinery on the status of women in Caricom Countries.
- COMMUNICATION:** The Co-ordinator will arrange media seminars; assist in the publication of a quarterly newsletter; distribute material on Women and Development issues; and collaborate in the Caribbean Women's Features Syndicate.
- FACILITATING:** The Co-ordinator will use the Unit to facilitate the development of research programmes on women in the Caribbean and programmes for law reform to ensure equality between the sexes.
- CO-ORDINATION:** The WAND Programmes will function in co-ordination with the programmes of a number of regional agencies, e.g. the CARICOM Secretariat, CARIWA, CDB, etc.
- LIAISON:** There will be liaison with international and regional groups and agencies, governmental agencies for women and Caribbean women's organisations.

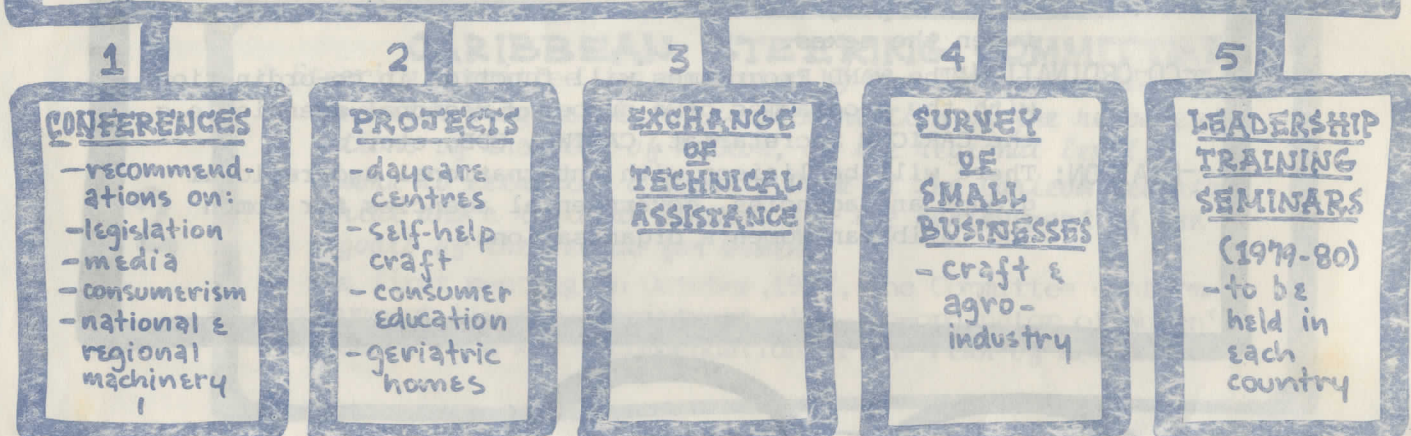


BACKGROUND OF CARIWA

— TEN COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES —



CARIWA (Guyana)



— BRIEF HISTORY —

The Caribbean Women's Association is an organisation which serves to bring together non-governmental women's organisations throughout the region. It was officially established in 1973 by Viola Burnham, wife of the Prime Minister of Guyana. It is made up of representatives of women's groups in thirteen Caribbean countries. These are: Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, Montserrat, Surinam, and Trinidad and Tobago. The Association's chief objective is to improve the status of Caribbean women through legislative change and programmes which improve the economic and social conditions of life. It aims to promote understanding and unity among Caribbean women in pursuit of their common objectives. The functioning of CARIWA is the responsibility of an Executive Committee, headed by President, Mrs. Olga Byrne, of Guyana.

NEWS FROM CARIWA

A Caribbean Food Fair was one of the highlights during the last Biennial Conference of the Caribbean Women's Association (CARIWA) held in Antigua last year. There was keen participation by women from the various Caribbean territories, whose contributions of indigenous dishes were well received by their Caribbean sisters and the Antiguan general public alike. The food items and dishes on display were eventually sold, and the proceeds used to enhance the general funds of CARIWA, for use in its wide-reaching programmes for the improvement of the status of Caribbean women.

With the Barbados Tourist Board and the Antigua Hotel Association making an input, the Fair also proved to be a valuable tourist attraction, luring visitors to the Caribbean island to the large display booths where a wide variety of Caribbean culinary delights were temptingly displayed. The Food Fair was considered to be quite successful, and CARIWA is hoping to be able to incorporate the Caribbean Food Fair in its future Biennial Conference plans.

At its Biennial Conference in Antigua last year, CARIWA made a resolution for the holding of exhibitions of Women's work in all the regional territories, with a view to discovering marketing potential for women's work in the Caribbean. In Barbados, the proposal has already been implemented with the recent staging of a two-day exhibition of women's work (in crafts and preserves) on May 5 and 6. The impressive exhibition included literary and photographic material and paintings also. It was co-sponsored by the National Organization of Women (NOW) and the Barbados Department of Women's Affairs.

At the extra-regional level, CARIWA is hoping to send a high-powered team of women to the United Nations, with a view to securing facilities for a permanent display of Caribbean women's work at the UN, and also to ensure a market for their produce in the United States of America.

CARIWA is planning to publish a Caribbean Cook book to coincide with its Tenth Anniversary Celebrations next year. Work has already begun on the collection of recipes for inclusion in this publication.



NEWS FROM WAND

REGIONAL MEDIA SEMINAR:



One of the first activities of the newly-established Women and Development Unit was the organisation of a **Regional Media Seminar**. The Seminar, which was held from October 4 - 8, 1978, brought together representatives of regional agencies with women and development programmes and representatives of the media in the Caricom region.

Its main objective was to brief media personnel on regional programmes for the integration of women in development, and to obtain their views on, and support for, the Caribbean Women's Features Syndicate.

Discussion focussed on how the media in the Caribbean perceived the **Decade for Women**, and what the Decade expected of the media.

By the end of the Seminar, participants had agreed that the media had an important role to play in relation to programmes for changing the image of women in the media, and in preparing women to play a more active role in the development of their countries.

Among other conclusions reached, it was pointed out that the media could present a more balanced picture of women by projecting the involvement of women in such developmental activities as co-operatives and agricultural programmes.

Delegates left the Seminar feeling that there was a lot more positive action being taken by the agencies attending the Seminar, which needed to be highlighted. They also recognised that Caribbean women were doing more than was reflected in the regional media.

MEDIA SEMINAR PARTICIPANTS

LOCAL AND REGIONAL MEDIA REPRESENTATIVES

WALROND, Linda	Editor/Co-ordinator Women's Features Syndicate	C/o CADEC/CCN Collymore Rock, St. Michael <u>BARBADOS</u>
RUDDER, Michael	Director CADEC Communications Network (CCN)	CADEC Collymore Rock, St. Michael <u>BARBADOS</u>
MADIERA, Jones	Adviser, Media Relations Public Information	CARICOM Secretariat Bank of Guyana Building <u>GUYANA</u>
HILAIRE, Peter	Producer	Radio ZDK, St. Johns <u>ANTIGUA</u>
KIRTON, Pearl		"The Nation" (Newspaper) Fontabelle Bridgetown <u>BARBADOS</u>
LOPES-SEALE, Olga	Announcer/Producer	Barbados Rediffusion River Road, St. Michael <u>BARBADOS</u>
ROGERS, Julian	Broadcaster	CBC-TV The Pine, St. Michael <u>BARBADOS</u>
GREEN, Shermaine	Broadcaster	Dominica Broadcasting Corp. Victoria Street, Roseau <u>DOMINICA</u>
BAPTISTE, Sandra	Journalist/Broadcaster	St. Georges, <u>GRENADA</u>
HUGHES, Alistaire	Radio Journalist	Guyana Broadcasting Service Georgetown <u>GUYANA</u>
GOODISON, Lorna	Script Writer	Agency for Public Information 58 Half-way Tree Tree Road Kingston 10, <u>JAMAICA</u>
NG-A-QUI, Marilyn	Radio Journalist	Radio Antilles Plymouth <u>MONTSERRAT</u>
CHARLES, Emelda	News Editor	Radio Caribbean International Castries <u>ST. LUCIA</u>

SIMPSON, Trevor News Editor
Caribbean News Agency (CANA)

PEACOCK, Nora Editor

Wildey Plaza
St. Michael
BARBADOS

REYES, Elma Journalist

"The Vincentian"
Kingstown
ST. VINCENT

"Trinidad Express"
1 A Gordon Street
Arima
TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

REGIONAL AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES

ANTROBUS, Peggy Tutor/Co-ordinator
Women and Development Unit
(WAND)

Extra-Mural Department
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The Pine, St. Michael
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BROWNE, Dora Co-ordinator
Education & Development

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BARBADOS

BYRNE, Olga President
Caribbean Women's Association (CARIWA)

284 Foreshaw Street
Queenstown, Georgetown
GUYANA

ELWYN, Hyacinth Tutor
Caribbean Youth Centre

Commonwealth Youth Centre
P.O. Box 795, Georgetown
GUYANA

MATHURIN, Eldon Director
Services & Administration
CARICOM Secretariat

Bank of Guyana Building
Georgetown
GUYANA

TOUCHARD-LOPEZ, Gabriella President
Inter-American Commission
of Women (CIM)

OAS Secretariat
Washington
U.S.A.

RESOURCE PERSONS

ALLEYNE, Marva Director
Department of Women's Affairs

Attorney General's Office
Marine House, Hastings, Ch.Ch.
BARBADOS

ALLISON, Lyn Special Assistant
WAND

Extra Mural Department
UWI, Cave Hill
The Pine, St. Michael
BARBADOS

LAYNE-CLARKE, Jeannette Director
Impact Production/News Letter

Bridgetown
BARBADOS

O'SELMO, Gloria Secretary
WAND

Extra-Mural Department
UWI, The Pine, St. Michael
BARBADOS

WALKER, Anne Director
International Women's Tribune Centre

345 E 46 Street
Room 815
New York, 10017
U.S.A.

REGIONAL AGENCIES...

— C C C —

Caribbean Conference of Churches

DEVELOPMENT

CADEC*

RENEWAL

ARC**

PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT

EDUCATION
FOR
DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNI-
CATION

CLUSTER
I

CLUSTER
II

CLUSTER
III

APPROPRIATE
TECHNOLOGY

LAND & FOOD
FOR PEOPLE

PAREDDOS

HUMAN
RIGHTS

SCHOLAR-
SHIPS

DOCUMENTATION
CONTACT

CHRISTIAN
ACTION WEEK

DERAW

CEDAR PRESS

COMMUNICARIB
RADIO CONTACT

WOMEN'S
FEATURES
SYNDICATE

YOUTH
(CEYA)

WOMEN
(CCW)

FAMILY
LIFE

CHRISTIAN
EDUCATION

THEOLOGICAL
RENEWAL

SCHOLARSHIP

EVANGELISM

MISSION

CARIBBEAN
LITURGY

CARIBBEAN
CHURCH MUSIC

CARIBBEAN
IDENTITY

CHRISTIAN
COUNCILS

* Christian Action for
Development in the Caribbean

** Action for Renewal
of the Church.

CCW

The Caribbean Church Women Programme of the Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC) came about as a result of an ecumenical consultation on the *Role of Women in Caribbean Development*, in 1971, in Jamaica. The Programme is now a part of the CCC's Action for Renewal of the Church Programme. The CCW Programme includes leadership training, family life education, development projects, consumer education, political awareness-raising activities, and media and communications activities. Four women Co-ordinators are responsible for CCW's Programme. They serve respectively: Jamaica and the Northern Caribbean; Trinidad and Tobago and the Southern Caribbean; Curacao and the Western Caribbean, and the Leeward and Windward Islands.

NEWS FROM CCW

Visits by CCW Sub-Regional Co-ordinators may be requested by women who need the following:-

- ... help in planning action to meet local needs;
- ... resource persons for seminars, workshops and other training programmes;
- ... help in preparing educational material.

Territories covered by the four sub-region are:-

JAMAICA SUB-REGION:

Jamaica, Belize, Cayman Islands, Bahamas, Turks & Caicos Islands, Cuba and Puerto Rico, and Haiti. There is also liaison with Costa Rica, Honduras and Panama.

CO-ORDINATOR: Miss Dorritt Bent
P.O. Box 527
Kingston 10
Jamaica

ANTIGUA SUB-REGION:

Leeward Islands - Antigua, Dominica, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Guadeloupe, Martinique

CO-ORDINATOR: Sr. Evalina John Phillip, ICM
P.O. Box 911
St. John's, Antigua

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO SUB-REGION:

Trinidad, Tobago, Grenada and the Grenadines, Barbados, Guyana, Cayenne.

CO-ORDINATOR: Miss Enid Kirton
P.O. Box 876
1 A Dere Street
P.O.S., Trinidad

CURACAO SUB-REGION:

Aruba, Bonaire, Surinam, Curacao, Santo Domingo

CO-ORDINATOR: Miss Joyce DaCosta Gomez
Hendriksteeg 19 (O)
Willemstad, Curacao, N.A.

OTHER REGIONAL NEWS

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is actively promoting the goals of the Decade for Women throughout the region, with special adviser on workers' education for women - Nina Jaquet - assisting in setting up special seminars for trade union women in the region.

One such seminar was held in Barbados in February this year, at the Barbados Workers' Union Labour College. It was co-sponsored by the ILO and the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA), in collaboration with the Caribbean Congress of Labour (CCL).

The ILO had previously held a meeting on technical training for women in Port of Spain, Trinidad, during November last year. This was part of a larger meeting on technical training which involved the heads of technical training programmes in CARICOM countries.

The Organisation also expects to have based in the region experts on co-operatives, handicrafts and management, all of which will be useful to women in development programmes.

The Inter-American Commission on Women of the Organisation of American States (CIM) has appointed Lisolotte de Barrios as Caribbean Co-ordinator for women's programmes in the region. She is based in the Dominican Republic.

Following the 1977 Conference held by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) in Havana, presiding officers were named to follow up progress made on implementing ECLA's Plan of Action. To this end, presiding officers for Cuba, Jamaica, Mexico and Venezuela have been holding meetings in the course of the last year.

It is hoped that ECLA will establish a special focal point on women in development within its Port-of-Spain office in the near future

In 1975, Barbados established a Commission on the Status of Women to serve as the major guide to the total integration of women into the economic, political and social life of the country. The Commission's findings were laid in Parliament in September last year.

The establishment of a Women's Desk in the CARICOM Secretariat, for which Caribbean women have been lobbying since 1974, is still unresolved. But there are increasing calls for such a desk from progressive organisations throughout the region. A positive step has been taken with the appointment of Magda Pollard as Women's Affairs officer in the meanwhile.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS ...

A forthcoming Conference on Science and Technology will be held by the United Nations this year. A special Task Force on the roles of women for this Conference has been set up in New York, and has been lobbying to have a special item on women inserted in the Conference's Agenda. The task force comprises representatives of non-governmental organisations. They have also prepared a background paper on the subject, and the Women and Development Unit of the Extra-Mural Department of the UWI in Barbados is hoping that a Caribbean position-paper will be developed for this important Conference. The Mid-decade Conference on the UN Decade for Women takes place next year, probably in Denmark. Caribbean women will be proud to note that Jamaican historian and diplomat, Dr. Lucille Mair, has been appointed Special Assistant Secretary General at the UN for the Mid-decade Conference. Women have been busy trying to make their voices heard. Last year, the Asian and Pacific Centre for Women and Development sponsored a workshop on Women and Technical Co-operation Among the Developing Countries, in Iran. This workshop prepared background papers to be presented at the UN Conference on Technical Co-operation among Developing Countries, which took place in Argentina last year. The workshop was set up after women were excluded from the four regional meetings which were held prior to the UN Conference. Women again made their presence felt at the UN General Assembly Special Session devoted to Disarmament, in New York between May and June last year, after having attended the **Women and World Disarmament** Seminar in Vienna that same year.

WOMEN'S FEATURES SYNDICATE



In 1975 a Conference on *Women and the Media* was held in Jamaica to mark International Women's Year. Coming out of that Conference was a recommendation that a Caribbean media association be formed to promote the social, economic and cultural interests of women in the media and the society as a whole.

Today, the media association has become a reality with the establishment of the *CARIBBEAN WOMEN'S FEATURES SYNDICATE*. The Syndicate was officially set up at the beginning of July, 1978.

The aim of the Syndicate is to increase awareness of the new role of women in society and to stimulate their participation in the development process.

An Editor/Co-ordinator operates out of an office at the Barbados Headquarters of Christian Action for Development in the Caribbean (CADEC). There, she edits and distributes material sent in by a network of women correspondents from around the English-speaking Caribbean. She is also expected to prepare radio programmes for transmission through CADEC Communications Network (CCN).

Features dealing with issues concerning, on of interest to, women in development are sent out weekly to the regional media through the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) and by mail. Priority for the first year of the Syndicate's operations is on features about low-income women, particularly those involved in income-generating projects.

The first feature was issued on August 29, 1978. This has been followed by 21 features to date.

Responsibility for the project is in the hands of a supervisory Committee which includes the Caribbean Women's Association; the Tutor/Co-ordinator of WAND; CCN, CANA; and the Caribbean Conference of Churches.

Funding is provided by the United Methodist Church of America, with a marginal grant coming from UNESCO.

