

1990 Annual Report
of
The Caribbean Association for
Feminist Research & Action
(CAFRA)

JULY 1991

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ERRATA

pg. 20 : add "on." to last line of text.

pg. 22, para. (6) : add "full-time postion in November." to last line of text.

INTRODUCTION

1990 marked the fifth anniversary of CAFRA. It can also be said to have marked the end of Phase I in the development of the association. The first five years were those of conceptualisation and formation; of voluntarily building the association while writing project proposals, fundraising, putting management and accounting systems into place to best harness our resources; of facing the myriad problems resulting from moving from a voluntary to a semi-voluntary non-profit association. The period also saw the major research/action projects come on stream; the association being called upon to serve a broad range of needs of the feminist movement regionally; and the association develop into a key regional NGO speaking out on issues of Caribbean development such as the 'Impact of the Debt Crisis and Structural Adjustment'.

By 1990 also, the membership of CAFRA had grown well beyond the group of forty feminists who had launched the association in 1985. But it was this very fact of growth in the membership which became the source of the problems which emerged at the II Biennial General Meeting (BGM) held in October 1990. The searching evaluations which took place subsequent to that meeting all pointed to the different levels of consciousness about feminist issues and experience in feminist organising among the present general membership. Obviously, what had happened in those five years was that the work of the feminist movement regionally, and CAFRA's own activities, had begun to reach women with no

previous involvement. So at the II BGM, where the ratio of new members to old was approximately two to one, some members were asking questions such as, 'What is feminism?', and 'What are feminist issues?'; while others wanted to talk about 'Sexual Politics in the Caribbean'. 'Strategies for building national coalitions', or 'Forming a feminist political party', and so on.

Of course, since the two-day encounter was attempting to combine both the conceptual and the business of a general meeting, the process broke down, with few of the members' needs and demands being met. In retrospect, what is felt should happen in the future is that BGMs should run for a full week, with a Latin American style 'Encuentro' taking place over 3-5 days, where workshops and debates about a wide range of issues can take place, to be followed by 2 days of general business.

In the coming period much has to be done. The decision-making structures set up in 1989, and which have been at work for a year, are felt to be inadequate. The process of review and change has already begun. The evaluation of the association to be carried out in 1991, the first since its inception in 1985, will provide a useful opportunity for introspection and analysis - of our failures as much as our successes. It should also provide some answers to the question, 'Where do we go from here?', given the present level of development of the movement regionally, of which CAFRA is now an intrinsic part.

Project Co-ordinators' Reports

'Women in Caribbean Agriculture Project' (WICA)

The WICA report to the II Biennial General Meeting on 26-28 October 1990, outlined the follow-up activities being carried out in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the Commonwealth of Dominica. These included project identification and group building in St. Vincent, as well as a series of short stories and oral testimonies based on the lives and experience of the women interviewed. In Dominica, activities to disseminate the findings, eg. through World Food Day commemoration continued. Two ex-researchers and a community participant had attended meetings and courses abroad to exchange experience and develop skills. Both project locations experienced personnel problems and solutions were being sought.

The Belize Rural Women's Association (BRWA) completed their project proposal for research/action on rural women, and decided to put the implementation on hold for a period of two years, in order to get the considerable amount of funding necessary.

Trinidad & Tobago Suriname

Requests had been received for the expansion of the project to Trinidad & Tobago and Suriname. In Trinidad & Tobago, a part-time Consultant, Sharon Carew was hired to Co-ordinate the preparatory phase of the project during January - June, 1991. This phase would include, among other activities, defining the concept of the project in Trinidad & Tobago, inviting a range of



Government and NGO representatives at the SVG National Workshop



Nelcia Robinson, CDW CO-ordinator, shares audio-visual information



Members of a workshop group



3 *Community women dramatise road problems*

organisations and institutions to collaborate with CAFRA on it; and developing a project proposal for use in local and international fundraising. An Advisory Body (made up of CAFRA, the Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development [CNIRD], Institute for Inter-American Co-operation in Agriculture [IICA], Women Working for Social Progress [Workingwomen], and the National Foodcrop Farmers' Association [NFFA]) was set up to inform and monitor the work of the Consultant during the preparatory phase.

The ASA Foundation for Women in Suriname has not yet submitted to CAFRA a concrete proposal for assistance with their proposed 'Women in Agriculture' project.

Dominica

Since the report submitted to the II Biennial General Meeting, the project in Dominica has been given a boost through the appointment of Josephine Dublin as Country Co-ordinator, and Martha Joseph and Cristalene Merrifield as paid field staff to assist Josephine. Josephine and Martha are both ex-researchers on the project. These decisions were taken after a visit by the Project Co-ordinator to the communities in Dominica, to observe first-hand the state of the follow-up in the communities. It was proposed and accepted that the Small Projects' Assistance Team (SPAT) continues the administration of the project, but with space being provided by the Dominica National Council of Women (DNCW). It is hoped that eventually SPAT and DNCW will be able to work together as joint facilitating agencies of the project.

St. Vincent & The Grenadines

The project in St. Vincent and the Grenadines has been plagued with problems. Firstly, there was a personnel problem, as the Committee for the Development of Women (CDW) did not have the necessary staff to facilitate the follow-up. A member of staff was identified in August and started working in September. It now appears that

OH WOMAN

(sung to the tune of 'Yellow bird')

Oh woman, all clothed in
a debt like this

Oh woman, no agricultural
credit

How you going to get
food tomorrow day

Look de children dem
hanging round yuh hem
De shopkeeper say no
more trust today

Malnutrition relay

Oh woman, you have no
title to land

Oh woman, your man
have little to land

In the house and land
you working so hard
No leisure you get only
toil and sweat

We can share the work
And don't leave us broke
Then we both go and
fete

Oh woman, a quarter
acre you get

Oh woman, this ain't an
economic plot

You get less money than
de man dem do

Even if is the same work
we do

We need equal pay
For our work today
To be happy and gay.

*This song was composed by the
teams at the popular theatre
workshop in St. Vincent.*

she is unable to handle the difficult problems of community mobilisation in the Orange Hill area, which is the community most critically in need of concrete follow-up action. The Women and Development Unit (WAND) Consultant, Pat Ellis, who has been working along with CDW to develop the follow-up action, particularly in Orange Hill, has recommended the appointment of someone with the required skills to work in Orange Hill, and that CDW take steps to ensure that the present Field Officer receives the necessary training, supervision, and support to enable her to function effectively in the other two communities.

To complicate matters further, an Inter-Agency Committee comprised of all the agencies working in the Orange Hill area, was formed to promote collaboration and avoid duplication in the follow-up work and the work already being done by agencies in the area. The Inter-Agency Committee has not been playing the role expected of it as a result of what the WAND Consultant describes as 'the rivalry, competition, and conflict between local agencies in St. Vincent'. Particular ten-

sion seems to centre on CDW and its work in Orange Hill. The CDW Co-ordinator feels it would be best at this time for CDW to draw back and allow the Inter-Agency Committee to assert itself.

The experience of St. Vincent raises serious questions about the role of local agencies, the issue of 'turfism', and strategies necessary for building cohesion and understanding between them before, during and after the research in the research and action project. A regional agency like CAFRA is in a difficult situation, not wanting to interfere unduly, but also anxious to see the communities move ahead. Perhaps the Belize case, where a more deliberate approach is being taken to agency involvement and participation in the project preparation phase, may teach us some lessons.

An evaluation of CDW's action in relation to the follow-up is planned for 27 April, with the participation of CAFRA and WAND.

Statistical reform

On the issue of statistical reform to better reflect women's work and contribution to GNP and GDP, not much has been done as we had hoped. The planned

collaboration with personnel from the University of the West Indies' (UWI) Institutes of Social and Economic Research (ISER) in Jamaica and Barbados, did not get off the ground, though the material existing at both the CARICOM Statistical Department and ISER was collected. The issue has, however, been raised in various national lobbies - Belize, Jamaica, St. Vincent and Dominica. Attempts to influence the 1991 CARICOM Census met with limited success as it was already late for submissions when the



Census came to our attention. We did make the submissions nonetheless, but our ability to mobilise support for the submission was constrained by the time factor. The matter was raised at the 27 Feb. - 1 Mar., 1991 CARICOM Regional Economic Conference as part of the Project Co-ordinator's presentation on behalf of the Regional NGOs. This will need active follow-up in the upcoming period.

Major Issues

In my view, the major issues facing the project at this time are:

1. The appointment of a new 'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' Project Co-ordinator;
2. Working through the problems in St. Vincent;
3. Strengthening of the lobbying aspects of local as well as regional follow-up to WICA, Phase I (eg. women's access to land, unequal pay structures, credit arrangements, and the region's statistical base, to better reflect the work and situation of women;
4. Promoting exchanges between communities and across territories, for the purpose of strengthening local actions, particularly in St. Vincent and Dominica;
5. Further training for WICA personnel in St. Vincent and Dominica in community mobilisation, the implications of a gender perspective for project implementation, and strategies for working around gender in a community context;
6. Assisting the Belize Rural Women's Association (BRWA) in documenting the process of project development, and finding funding for project implementation;
7. Continuing the project preparation in Trinidad & Tobago; and
8. Evaluating CAFRA's strategy in this first research/action project, given the outcomes so far.

Since I went to Barbados to represent my community (at the Regional Meeting), the women look up to me for a lot of guidance. When I think something is going wrong, I will speak out against it. Thanks to the research team, I have gathered a lot more information and experience and feel more self-confident in making my decisions.

Louise, St. Vincent.

This research project was a challenge to me to assist in giving people information about themselves so that they were able to analyse and make decisions about their situation. I also learnt a lot of skills, for example, popular dissemination of information and video production. My confidence to speak out on women's issues grew, and it was this experience that encouraged me to accept a position as Member of Parliament to further bring women's issues to the fore.

Josephine Dublin, Researcher, Dominica.

I'm so glad that you all came to Orange Hill because everybody coming to get information and promise to come back and help us and we never see them again. We don't know what is happening to the lands, and the people in charge don't tell us anything. I see you are the only ones who are really showing interest.

Community participant, St. Vincent.

'Women and the Law' Project

1990 began with the 'Women and the Law' project still in its preparatory phase - the Project Co-ordinator was employed on a part-time basis until February. The preparation phase of the project entailed:

- a) The exploration of funding possibilities;
- b) The exploration of the possibility of collaboration with key research-oriented agencies in the Caribbean; and
- c) The reactivation of the network of support for the law project.

In ascertaining interest for the project, contact was made with a wide range of non-governmental organisations and with the governmental machinery for women in the region between the end of 1989 and 1990.

Further an exploratory mission was embarked upon to Grenada, St. Lucia and Antigua in February 12-21 (A report of this mission was submitted at the end of February 1990).

The better part of 1990 was spent exploring interest for the project in the proposed territories and in raising funds for the implementation of the project. The project document was finalised at the end of February and the document, appropriately adapted, was sent to the following agencies:

- Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), Caribbean Office
- Canadian High Commission, Trinidad and Tobago
- International Development Research Centre (IDRC), Ottawa
- Ford Foundation, USA
- Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO), Trinidad & Tobago
- The Caribbean Justice Improvement

Project (CJIP), Faculty of Law, UWI, Barbados

- The Women and Development Studies Group, UWI, Barbados
- International Labour Organisation (ILO), Caribbean Office
- CIDA-INGO Division, Ottawa
- European Economic Commission (EEC), Caribbean Office

More specific project proposals were submitted to the Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad and Tobago and the Pan-American Health Organisation (PAHO) for funding the Regional Meeting on 'Women, Violence and the Law'.

By the end of 1990, the project had either received funds or commitments for funding from the Ford Foundation; CIDA, Caribbean Office; CIDA-INGO Division and the Canadian High Commission in Trinidad and Tobago. The funds received from the last two sources were specific to project implementation in Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Lucia and Trinidad and Tobago.

As part of fund-raising, a visit was undertaken to Barbados in March to meet with Caribbean Justice Improvement (CJIP) Project and the Women and Development Studies Group. As it turned out, CJIP had decided to undertake a similar project and therefore was not in a position to fund CAFRA as had been suggested previously.

Research

At the Consultative Committee Meeting of 25-26 May 1990, it was decided that the baseline research on the legal status of women should be carried out in all the territories (in so far as the funds raised permitted) and that the action phase should initially take place in four or five countries.

The rationale for this decision was that in some of the more developed countries in the region (i.e. Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Bahamas) where there are greater technical and trained human resources to draw upon, the women's organisations can use the background research to fashion an action component which would not require CAFRA's involvement on the same scale as in the lesser developed countries.

By the end of the year the following persons were identified for the research consultancies:

Country	Consultant
Antigua	Cecile Hill, Attorney-at-Law
Bahamas	Marion Bethel, Attorney-at-Law and member of Developing Alternatives for Women Now (DAWN)
Dominica	Joan Prevost, Attorney-at-Law and member of the Dominica National Council of Women
Dominican Republic	Carmen Imbert, Judge and Professor at the University of the Dominican Republic
Grenada	Christopher Nelson, Attorney-at-Law attached to The Grenada Legal Aid Clinic
Guyana	Josephine Whitehead, Attorney-at-Law and member of the Association of Women Lawyers
Jamaica	Suzanne Dodd, Attorney-at-Law
Puerto Rico	Janice Gutierrez, Attorney-at-Law
St. Lucia	Mary Francis, Attorney-at-Law
Suriname	Jennifer van Dijk-Silos, Lecturer in Law at the University of Suriname
Trinidad and Tobago	Roberta Clarke, Attorney-at-law and Project Co-ordinator of the 'Women and the Law' project

The following topics will be examined in the research:

- a) Family Law: status of children, status of common-law spouse, child custody, child maintenance, divorce, maintenance orders, property rights of spouses (married and common-law), minimum age for marriage, etc.;
- b) Labour Law: collective bargaining rights; minimum wage; occupational health and safety; maternity leave and benefits; equal pay for equal work; sexual harassment in the workplace, etc.
- c) Property Rights;
- d) Constitutional guarantees against discrimination on the basis of sex;
- e) Citizenship and immigration;
- f) Sexual offences and domestic violence; and
- g) Succession laws.

Regional Meeting on 'Women, Violence and the Law'

What CAFRA requires from the researchers is that they produce a comprehensive report written in a form accessible to the non-legal person or organisation. This research should examine the above-mentioned areas as they relate to women, making comments where appropriate and suggestions as to the relevant legal reforms needed. It is on the basis of this background research that national consultations will be held to discuss a follow-up action programme and CAFRA's possible assistance to facilitate the same.

By the end of the year contract letters were prepared and sent to Christopher Nelson, Cecile Hill, Josephine Whitehead, Suzann Dodd and Marion Bethel. The deadline for completion of the research was the end of February 1991.

At the Consultative Committee meeting it was agreed that the Project Co-ordinator would prepare the above-mentioned baseline documents for Trinidad and Tobago and Dominica using the CARICOM Document on Laws related to women as a source. However, a number of factors have prevented the completion of these documents by the end of the year. These are: 1) the CARICOM Document was not completely placed on the computer until the middle of November; 2) administrative responsibilities on the part of the Project Co-ordinator have limited the time for research; and 3) the Project Co-ordinator went on maternity leave at the end of November. Given these considerations a decision has been taken to identify a consultant in Dominica to prepare the document.

Additional research was also done during the course of the year in preparation for a paper on 'Freedom of Association: An Exploratory Study of Women Workers in Trinidad & Tobago'. This paper was co-authored with Douglas Mendes and presented on the authors' behalf by Gaietry Pargass at the Women and Development Studies Group Seminar on 'Women and the Law' at the Faculty of Law, UWI, Barbados in December.

Planning for this meeting got underway in June. At this time an agreement was reached between CAFRA and the Trinidad and Tobago Rape Crisis Society on co-hosting the meeting. Subsequently, UN/ECLAC suggested that it also participate in hosting the meeting. This suggestion was based on the need to avoid duplication and pool resources since UN/ECLAC also had plans to host a meeting of a similar nature.

The objectives of the meeting were as follows:

- To situate the extent of sexual violence in Caribbean society and to explore the manner in which the same has been confronted by non-governmental organisations, social work agencies, the police departments and the judicial administration;
- To discuss the legal issues inherent in rape crisis work and other sexual offences with a view to developing proposals for legislative and judicial administration reform;
- To share the outreach experiences of rape crisis centres in the Caribbean region so as to develop strategies for maximizing the impact of advocacy work;
- To identify specific areas in which action should be undertaken, including recommendations as regards the types of institutions which might undertake such actions.

The persons/organisations targeted to attend the conference were rape crisis centre personnel (both the legal advisers and the outreach workers); organisations whose work focuses on the women and violence issue; police departments; judicial administration personnel; and social workers.

Comments on the Year's Activities

The tasks of the Project Co-ordinator can be divided into three functions. These are research, project conceptualization and administration.

Research

The demands of the administrative component of the Project Co-ordinator's work has meant that the research component has suffered somewhat. So, for example, by the end of 1990 the baseline research on the legal status of women in Trinidad and Tobago has still to be completed.

Indeed, in a project of this nature, having recognised the role which the legal apparatus has played and continues to play in buttressing and fortifying class and gender inequality in our societies, it is an imperative that legal issues are explored in the context of gender and class ideology.

Such research and the dissemination of same is crucial in demystifying the law. The inability to address such issues is a weakness of the project, a weakness which flows from insufficient project staff and ultimately from the general unwillingness of international funding agencies to fund staff positions.

Project Conceptualisation

The Project Co-ordinator has the responsibility to formulate the parameters of the project. But she does so in consultation with the all CAFRA decision-making bodies, i.e. the Secretariat, the Consultative Committee, and the Regional Committee. Because of the need to consult and ratify decisions at these levels, the implementation and scope of the project has been affected. The major area of debate and contention has been the criteria used to select the project territories.

Financially and administratively, it is impossible to implement the project in all the terri-

tories where CAFRA has membership. As such CAFRA had to determine criteria for the selection of project territories. Originally, the Project Co-ordinator determined that at this point in time the OECS countries were in most need of a project of this nature relative to the more developed countries in the Caribbean, where there has been some work in research and action around issues of women and the law. Action which includes the publication of popular education materials and the establishment of rape crisis centres, and half-way houses, for example.

This decision came up for vigorous debate at various fora. The debate revolved around the following issues:

a) CAFRA should try to balance the needs of countries at different stages of development. On the one hand, CAFRA should initiate projects in the more developed countries where there exist some level of feminist activity. CAFRA's role there would be a supportive one. On the other hand, CAFRA should initiate projects in countries where there is little by way of feminist action and research;

b) Should CAFRA limit the project countries to five? It has been suggested that the baseline research on the legal status of women should be conducted in all territories and on the basis of this, the selection of countries for inclusion in the action component should be made.

In reply to CAFRA's request that the national representatives discuss the question of country selection, the Jamaican response is illustrative of some of the sentiments expressed: 'We wouldsuggest a balance in the selection of project territories between those with no CAFRA presence, those where little gender-focussed research on legal issues exists and those where significant research has been done but not yet pulled together in a form or disseminated in a manner that can usefully provide a basis for action by gender interest groups', and 'The focus of the project may therefore be somewhat different

depending on the particular status of work on women and the law in different sets of territories. It seems to us that it is as important to act at all these different levels. Moreover the strengthening of work already preceeded can assist those territories where little work has yet been done'.

This point of view was ratified at the Consultative Committee meeting. However, project proposals had already been sent to funding agencies who were only interested in funding selected countries - these being four of the OECS countries (Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States) and Trinidad and Tobago. The fact that these agencies eventually committed themselves to funding five specific project territories, together with the fact that the Project Co-ordinator and the very small administrative staff of CAFRA are unable to administer both the research and action levels of the project in more than five territories, determined the choice and number of project territories. Still, to meet to some extent the demands of the CAFRA member countries, the suggestion cited earlier was agreed upon and implemented, i.e. that the baseline research on the legal status should be carried out in all the countries which articulated strong interest. This research is to be considered as CAFRA's contribution to the movement for a gender-focussed discussion on the role of law in structuring women's subordination and emancipation in CAFRA member countries.

The above discussion must also be read in the context that the 'Women and the Law' project is envisaged as on-going beyond what can be currently regarded as Phase I, once funds are available and there is interest in the project.

Administration

Of necessity the year's activities have revolved around the need to raise funds for the project. In essence, the preparatory phase of the project lasted somewhat longer than the 6 months originally envisaged. Project activities could not commence, notwithstanding the completion of

the proposal, until some funds were in hand or at least promised. Indeed the first positive response for funding came in July 1990. By the end of the year approximately 50% of the funds needed for the project were raised. Fund-raising will therefore continue to form part of the activities of the Co-ordinator in 1991.

From the experience of 1990, particularly where the planning of the regional meeting was concerned, it is clear that the administrative component of the project is substantial. The proposed budget contained an item for an Assistant Project Co-ordinator. At the time of reporting however, no such person has been hired given budgetary considerations. In the instance therefore, the Project Co-ordinator needs to work very closely with the administrative members of staff in 1991.

1991 Workplan

JANUARY : Regional Meeting on 'Women, Violence and the Law'.

FEBRUARY: Project Co-ordinator on Maternity Leave.

MARCH: Report of the regional meeting on 'Women, Violence and the Law' prepared by the Project Co-ordinator.

MARCH-APRIL: Completion of the research in the five project territories.

APRIL: Preparation of the National Consultations.

MAY: National Consultations in the project territories.

MAY-SEPTEMBER 1991: Production of Popular Education materials on the areas specified from the national consultations. The production process will be the outcome of workshops where the relevant legal issues are discussed and analysed by governmental and non-governmental

agencies whose work brings them into contact with these issues. e.g. where domestic violence is concerned, agencies to be targeted for participation in the production of the materials will include lawyers, women's organisations, police departments, crisis centre workers and social workers.

MAY-SEPTEMBER 1991: Development of training programmes or workshops for women or women's organisations that deal with legal issues as they confront their clientele, e.g. crisis centre workers and trade unionists.

OCTOBER 1991- JUNE 1992: Implementation of the workshops or training modules in the project territories.

Administrative Structures

1. There needs to be established an Advisory Committee to monitor the project. The following composition is suggested:

- The CAFRA Co-ordinator;
- The Project Co-ordinator, Roberta Clarke;
- Gaiety Pargass, former Co-ordinator of the CAFRA/ILSA 'Women and the Law' Project;
- A Representative from the Spanish-speaking countries;
- Marion Bethel, Attorney-at-Law and Bahamian CAFRA member; and
- Ann-Marie Sinkia, CAFRA's Financial Officer.

2. An Advisory Team is to be established in each project territory to monitor the project on the ground and to advise the national facilitators. This team is to be selected at the national consultations, and a suggested composition is as follows: The National Facilitator, CAFRA's National Representative, Representative of the Women's Desk, Representative of the umbrella grouping of Women's NGOs (where this exists), the Legal Researcher who prepared

the country study for the project, and a person skilled in Popular Education Methods.

3. National Facilitators will be appointed in each project territory (preferably organisations) whose function would be to ensure and monitor the implementation of the project activities locally.

Letter

Thank you for an excellent regional meeting in Trinidad & Tobago on 'Women, Violence and the Law'. It was very informative and it helped to establish links and support groups to build a network in the region of Women against Violence standing together and speaking with one voice.

WAND is willing to help with funding, taking into account the constraints of our own resources, should participants request technical assistance. We need to help them strengthen their organisations and develop their analysis of the problem of violence which incorporates the cultural, social, economic and political elements.

We are at present assisting the St. Lucia Crisis Centre Project and have met with Concerned Women in Grenada and Antigua, we are awaiting further communication from the latter two groups before we can proceed.

*Elaine Hewitt,
Programme Officer,
WAND(Women and Development Unit)*

'WOMEN'S HISTORY AND CREATIVE EXPRESSION' PROJECT

35mm Photography Workshop

CAFRA held a 35mm Photography Workshop in St. Vincent and the Grenadines from 30 March-6 April, 1990. Participants attended from the following countries: Belize, the Commonwealth of Dominica, Montserrat, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago. Two resource persons, Shahiba Ali and Karen De Souza, came from Trinidad and Tobago and Guyana respectively. Every attempt was made to include participants from the French and Dutch-speaking Caribbean. A prospective participant from Curaçao had confirmed her willingness to attend, but she did not pick up her ticket.

Due to the absolute lack of knowledge of the participants, workshop activities continued into the early hours of the morning in order to provide the measure of individual attention needed. Both the resource people and the Project Co-ordinator agreed that a one-week workshop was insufficient time to cover the basic requirements for taking and developing quality 35mm photographs. We also agreed that there was need to have a two week follow-up in which an entire week would be spent on the camera alone and another on darkroom techniques. A complete report of the workshop was prepared and circulated to all resource persons, participants and funders.

Oral History Projects

(a) *Miss Amy and Miss May* (Sistren Research, Jamaica)

Sistren Research's video entitled 'Miss Amy and Miss May' is now completed and available from Sistren at a cost of JA \$300. It was launched

in Jamaica on 8 February, 1990. CAFRA was thanked for financial assistance and sent a copy of the video. Sistren Research is at present developing a plan for local, regional, and international distribution

(b) *Short Stories/Oral Testimonies based on the lives of Women in Agriculture* (Anselma Morgan and Beverley Warren, St. Vincent and the Grenadines)

CAFRA supported the writing of twelve short stories/oral testimonies by two ex-researchers involved in the St. Vincent and the Grenadines' 'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' project. The first drafts of the stories/testimonies are now complete. What needs to happen is a workshop of the two writers with a published Caribbean woman writer to work with them in editing the stories for publication.

(c) *Tape/Slide Show - Interviews with Women Sugar Workers* (Red Thread, Guyana)

Red Thread had produced a tape/slide show of interviews of Guyanese women sugar workers, which was shown in October 1987 at the WAND/CAFRA women's history workshop, 'Making Our History, Making Change' (For a report in popular form of this workshop, see *WOMANSPEAK*, No. 23, Apr. 1988). The tape/slide show had been shot and taped mainly on location at a private estate in Guyana. The women filmed and interviewed were workers in the traditional areas of weeding, fertilising, and cleaning of drains.

In 1990, Red Thread requested and CAFRA gave financial assistance which was required to: edit the interviews, some of which were too long;

shoot additional footage on the living conditions of the sugar workers; include background information on the history of the sugar industry; and host Ms. Diane Haylock of Belize (CAFRA member), who is experienced in tape/slide show production, to assist in the editing and production.

Publishing Handbook for Caribbean Women Writers

The *Publishing Handbook for Caribbean Women Writers* is being prepared as a follow-up to the request made by participants at the Creative Writing Seminar held in May 1989 in Trinidad & Tobago.

The *Handbook*, which is in its final stages of completion, is expected to be published by June 1991 and includes the following contents:

- 'Introduction', by Joan Ross-Frankson
- 'Poetry is Not a Luxury', by Audre Lorde
- 'Writing Poetry', by Margaret Watts
- 'Some Thoughts on Writing', by participants in CAFRA's Creative Writing Seminar
- 'Making Time to Write', by Sybil Seaforth
- 'Writing - The Magazine Market', by Rowena Kalloo
- 'Publishing Fiction - The Novel', by Sybil Seaforth
- 'Self-Publishing', by Eastlyn Bynoe
- 'Preparing Your Manuscript for a Publisher', by Sybil Seaforth
- Appendix I - List of Magazine Publishers in the Caribbean
- Appendix II - List of International Publishers of Women's Writings

It was decided that the first printing of this handbook should be produced 'in house' starting with 1,000 copies, approximately 80 pages in length.

Creation Fire: A CAFRA Anthology of Caribbean Women's Poetry

After four years of compilation; various deadlines for submission of poems; several editorial teams; fundraising; and a January 1990 meeting of the CAFRA Secretariat, the Editor, and the Publisher to iron out problems; the book, *Creation Fire: A CAFRA Anthology of Caribbean Women's Poetry* was finally published in October 1990, in time for the II Biennial General Meeting of the association.

Creation Fire includes the work of 121 published and previously unpublished poets from the Dutch, English, French, and Spanish-speaking Caribbean and the diaspora. The poetry has been laid out under twelve themes which are: The Seer, The Artist, The Mother, The Lover, The Exile, The Mourner, The Land, The Region, The Survivor, The Praise Singer, The Worker, and The Guerilla. The Contents of the Anthology include a Preface, Introduction, Biographies of the poets (with photographs), and a Glossary. The Back Cover of the book states, 'Women Poets of the Caribbean - the known and the unknown - speak their unique experience in this exciting new anthology. . . . This work crosses the boundaries of race, class and language in the Caribbean. The work is archipelagic in scope, extending as well down into South and Central America. It contains poems written in English, French and Spanish, as well as a number of Creole languages. Prophetic, revolutionary, tender, tight-lipped or pagan in its celebratory fervour - this anthology slips the knot from the silent cord binding the tongues of Caribbean women'.

The Trinidad and Tobago launching took place during the II Biennial General Meeting at the La Joya Auditorium, St. Joseph, Trinidad and Tobago, on 27 October. 'Hot off the press', Makeda Silvera of Sister Vision Press (Co-publisher of the book with CAFRA), and Ramabai Espinet (The Editor), brought with them a total of 72 copies.

From that total, we were able to distribute one copy each to contributing poets who were present at the Conference, as well as sell some to guests at the launching (See *CAFRA News*, Vol. 5 (1), Dec. 1990 - Feb. 1991 for reports, impressions, and photographs of the launching).

The after launch period saw an enthusiastic demand locally for copies of *Creation Fire*. With so few copies, demands could not be immediately met. Individual letters were sent informing contributing poets and artists that the Anthology had been published, together with photocopies of the Front and Back Covers, Title Page and Verso, Preface, Table of Contents, and Introduction. It had been contracted between Sister Vision Press and CAFRA, that Sister Vision Press would distribute complimentary copies of the Anthology to contributing poets and artists resident in the non-English speaking Caribbean and the diaspora; and CAFRA would distribute to contributors located in the English speaking Caribbean, from the books Sister Vision Press was to send us by December 1990.

We were informed by Sister Vision Press that 1,242 copies of *Creation Fire* left Toronto on 3 December by truck to Miami, from where they were supposed to have been placed on one of two ships bound for Trinidad & Tobago. When the ships docked in Trinidad and Tobago, neither was found to contain the books. A letter of claim has been filed by Sister Vision to its broker, Rookwood International. We've asked that a copy of the letter be sent to CAFRA.

With the books already overdue and contributors waiting anxiously to hold and to see them. Sister Vision was requested to airfreight another cargo of books to CAFRA.

January 16, 1991

*Yesterday I received a complimentary copy of **Creation Fire**, to my absolute delight. I quickly thumbed through it and read all the works by friends - but of course have not yet had a chance to read it from cover to cover.*

*Before being overtaken again by the papers on my desk, I wanted to write a note to say what a wonderful creation it is. I know there are many NGO bureaucrats who would say that culture is too soft, and doesn't have much to do with development, and can't be easily measured for tangible results etc. My Inter Pares colleagues and I are not among them! It is initiatives like **Creation Fire** which remind us that we must look beyond economic analyses and indicators for hope, and that human beings are at the heart of all our work. This book is such an affirmation of the creativity of women, and such a source of hope. When the voices of women such as these, who so clearly make the connections between self and society, personal and political, culture and transformation, are actually heard, we will not be facing the madness of world war that we are all facing this morning... To find these voices so beautifully bound together makes of the individual expressions a collective statement - about who women are how we (because I see myself in it, too!) see ourselves.*

Congratulations to all of you. And thank you - from the poet in me, who takes courage from, the poetry of these sisters' hearts and lives.

Jean Christie, Interpares

The Anthology breaks through an almost impenetrable wall of silence lying between those few who speak and the mass of women whose lives consist of simply doing. It also speaks of a new vision of sisterhood which is becoming felt throughout the Caribbean.

*Ramabai Espinet,
Editor, Creation Fire*

What affects one part of the region affects us all, because the sea between our islands is not a barrier but a link. Therefore, if we're making progress it should spread the length and breadth of the Caribbean. Creative writing reaches out to people and gets them in that place where true change happens, which is deep down inside. That is what I am working for and what we in the region are working for.

Peggy Carr

A high point of the launching was the presence of women poets from countries outside of Trinidad and Tobago. There was Mechtelly Tjin A Sie from Suriname, Priscilla Brown from Belize. Mahadai Das of Guyana was represented by Janice Jackson. Nancy Morejon of Cuba by Julieta Alfonso, Lima Fabien of Martinique by Hilary Nicholson, and Gladys Do Rego-Kuster of Curacao by Sonia Cuales. The Jamaican poets included Joan French, Honor Ford-Smith, Pauline Crawford and Opal Palmer Adisa. From Trinidad and Tobago, Ramabai Espinet, Marina Omawale Maxwell and Rajandaye Ramkissoon-Chen read poems. Dub poetry was rendered by Lana MacFarlane. The audience was intrigued by the variety of themes and sounds.

*Rajandaye Ramkissoon-Chen
Launching Creation Fire
CAFRA News, Vol. 5 No. 1,
Dec 1990- Feb 1991.*



Ella Andall (front) & Drupatee Ramgoonai



*Mechtelly Tjin-A-Sie
Launching Creation Fire*

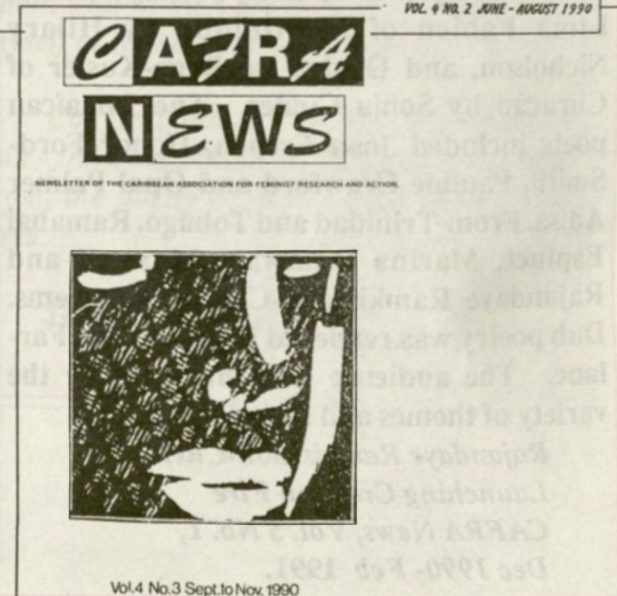
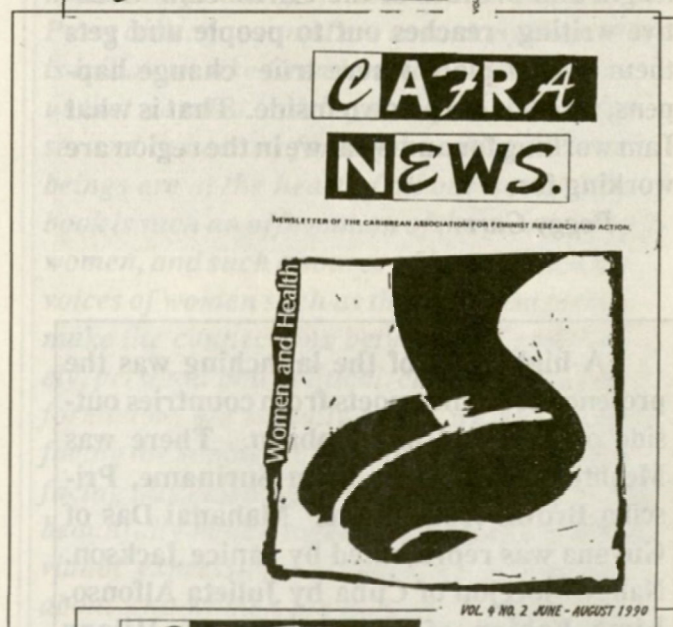
CAFRA News / Novedades CAFRA, the Quarterly Newsletter

CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA lost Tina Johnson, its hardworking and capable Editor/Producer of the last four years. Tina has migrated to Mexico with her family. As the new Editor/Producer, I face the challenging task of maintaining the professional standard that the magazine has attained. It is hoped that the experience and skill of the Newsletter Team, together with my own training under Tina, will allow a smooth editorial transition, allowing CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA to be produced with the same regularity and professionalism as has been established.

In 1990, eight issues of CAFRA News and Novedades CAFRA were produced in-house (four of each issue) by the desktop publishing method (See reduced covers reproduced on these pages). Chronologically, CAFRA News focussed in 1990 on the following issues: 'Responses to the Debt Crisis and Structural Adjustment Policies'; 'Women and Health'; 'Reflections on the Attempted Coup in Trinidad & Tobago'; and 'CAFRA's II Biennial General Meeting'/'The Launching of *Creation Fire: A CAFRA Anthology of Caribbean Women's Poetry*'. The content of Novedades CAFRA continued to trail CAFRA News by an issue, to facilitate the process of translation and production.

The Newsletter team is reorganising itself to collaborate more closely in the production of the Newsletter. In particular, Julieta Alfonso and I intend to work closely on the production of Novedades CAFRA with the aim of transferring to Julieta all the skills she will need to become the eventual Editor/Producer of Novedades CAFRA.

CAFRA News (See the Nov.1989 Newsletter Report in the Report of the Regional Committee Meeting) now has a mailing list of just over 340 individuals and organisations. The magazine



is still not financially self sufficient because many of its readers in the South are unable to afford it. To subsidise this, *CAFRA News* hopes to solicit subscriptions from women's groups, women's studies departments, etc. in the more wealthy Northern countries. This process has already begun.

Letters from our Readers

I have just received the Spanish version of the newsletter, *Novedades CAFRA*. Let me congratulate you for the excellent work that you have done. It will help to strengthen Spanish and English-speaking women's relationships.

Marilucy Gonzales Baéz, Puerto Rico.

I have just been reading parts of the last two issues of *CAFRA News*, and I find them very good and useful not only on feminist/women's issues, but in general on covering important development-related events. Congratulations!

*Karel Chambille,
HIVOS, The Netherlands.*

CAFRA News Vol.3 No.3 (Sept.-Nov.1989) was very good. The variety of articles was both stimulating and informative. I was particularly happy to read the article by Peggy Antrobus on "Impact of Structural Adjustment Policies on Women". As a feminist and an economist, it inspires me to write about our women's movement in Jamaica. The strategies proposed are worth discussing further and should inform our work as activists. I hope that this thrust of theoretical discussion can be continued in the pages of *CAFRA News*.

The magazine grows from strength to strength. Keep up the good work.

Annie Bonner, Jamaica.

NOVEDADES

CAFRA

Boletín informativo de la Asociación Caribeña para la investigación y acción feministas.



Vol. 1 No. 1 - Mayo 1989

NOVEDADES

CAFRA

Boletín informativo de la Asociación Caribeña para la investigación y acción feministas.



Vol. 1 No. 2 - Junio - Noviembre 1989

NOVEDADES

CAFRA

Boletín informativo de la Asociación Caribeña para la investigación y acción feministas.



Vol. 1 No. 4 Diciembre 1990

Non Project Activities

The Development of a Data Base of Caribbean Women's Research, Activities, and Alternative Documentation Centres

CAFRA lost Tina Johnson, our Editor/Producer of *CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA*, cum Administrative Assistant in September 1990. Cathy Shepherd, a Trinidad & Tobago feminist activist and professional Documentalist, was hired in October to combine the work of Administrative Assistant with that of Documentalist.

In 1990, Cathy did the following in respect of documentation at the CAFRA Office:

- Organised the serial collection (physically organising them on shelves which the association had had made, as well as manually recording the collection on serial record cards);
- Set up a vertical file of newspaper clippings, and other ephemeral literature; and
- Re-organised the general filing system of the association.

She has not yet been able to begin classifying and cataloguing the other holdings of the association. In 1991, she plans to manually catalogue and classify these holdings; as well as participate in CNIRD's Information Network, and UN/ECLAC's CARISPLAN Network. CAFRA's participation in both of these Information Networks is limited at this point however, because of the incompatibility of our in-house Macintosh computer system with the IBM/IBM-compatible system required for on-line participation in these networks. Both these networks use the CDS/ISIS software, which is increasingly used by NGOs, special libraries, and governmental libraries to both store and retrieve information.

Technical Assistance

Technical Assistance takes a variety of forms, and enables CAFRA to respond quickly to requests from regional women's organisations for small amounts of funding assistance for specific projects/activities. In 1990, this fund included in-kind support of skills' exchanges within the movement; in-part support to participate in regional and international conferences and training programmes; an intra-regional exchange to facilitate second language learning; assistance to a sister organisation whose offices were completely destroyed by fire; and operational expenses given quarterly to CAFRA's National Representatives to enable them to carry out networking and activities on behalf of the association at the national level (See the 1990 Audited Financial Statements for details of support given).

Regional/International Collaboration & Networking

CAFRA News and *Novedades CAFRA* are key networking tools of the Caribbean feminist movement. They feature the work, projects, and activities of women's organisations throughout the region. *Novedades CAFRA*, the Spanish version of *CAFRA News*, targets the Spanish-speaking countries of the Caribbean, as well as links the Caribbean feminist movement with Latin America. Since CAFRA began production of *Novedades CAFRA* in 1990, our outreach is still at an early stage of development, but it is expanding rapidly as our members and friends in the Spanish-speaking Caribbean and Latin America regularly send us new individual and organisational contacts.

CAFRA sits on the Management Bodies of a few regional and international networks/institu-

tions. These include the Executive and Management Committee of the Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD); the Advisory Body of the Women & Development Unit (WAND), Extra-Mural Department, University of the West Indies, Barbados; the Steering Committee of the recently set up Caribbean (NGO) Policy Unit; and the Steering Committee of the international network, Developing Alternatives with Women for a New Era (DAWN), which is based at WAND during the current three-year period. To these networks/institutions, CAFRA brings a Caribbean feminist perspective to their project and institutional development; information on the regional and international women's movement; and management skills and experience.

One of the major issues on which CAFRA has been networking regionally and internationally, is 'The Impact of the Debt Crisis and Structural Adjustment on the Caribbean'. This has taken place through *CAFRA News* and *Novedades CAFRA*; presentations and participation in various conferences and fora regionally and internationally (See Appendix II for a partial listing of such fora); participation in the Steering Committee of the Caribbean (NGO) Policy Unit, whose major focus in 1990 has been a Regional NGO Response to the Economic Policies of the CARICOM Governments to the year 2000, through participation in the CARICOM Regional Economic Conference (which was postponed from November 1990 to February 1991); participation in the CARICOM consultations held regionally prior to the Conference; much media advocacy; and so on.

CAFRA annually receives many requests by regional and international organisations/institutions for participation in conferences, seminars, workshops, etc. being held. This includes partici-

pation at the levels of conceptualisation, planning, and organisation; and as participants and resource persons. (See Appendix II for a list of such fora in which CAFRA participated in 1990).

In 1990, CAFRA continued the collaborative effort begun in 1989 with WAND, in co-hosting the second part of a Two-Part Seminar in 'Feminist Theory for Activists'. The participants were mainly fielded through CAFRA's 'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' and 'Women's History and Creative Expression' projects. In 1990 the association also began the planning for a January 1991 regional meeting on 'Women, Violence, and the Law' in collaboration with the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (UN/ECLAC), and the Rape Crisis Society of Trinidad & Tobago (See 'Women and the Law' project report).

CAFRA responds annually to innumerable requests for information on: the Caribbean women's movement; specific issues of concern to the regional women's movement; contacts with organisations regionally and internationally working on particular issues; etc.

At the level of the Secretariat, CAFRA does a fair amount of media advocacy on current and other issues of feminist concern. Much media is also organised to coincide with regional project-specific and membership meetings hosted by CAFRA. In Trinidad & Tobago, CAFRA is recognised as an institution working on feminist issues, and is frequently called upon to send speakers to various public fora, the High Schools, radio and television programmes, and so on. Further, because of the fact that most members of the CAFRA Staff and Secretariat belong to Trinidad & Tobago based feminist organisations, CAFRA collaborates with these organisations in the holding of public fora, in campaigns, and so

Institutional Development

Meetings of CAFRA's Decision-Making Bodies: The Consultative Committee, and the Biennial General Meeting:

The **CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING** was held on 26-27 May in Trinidad & Tobago. A report was prepared and circulated to the general membership and funders of the association. It also included as an Appendix the 1989 Audited Income and Expenditure Statements of the association.

A workshop of National Representatives took place on 25 October, in Trinidad & Tobago, immediately preceding the II Biennial General Meeting (BGM) of the CAFRA membership. It was attended by past and current National Representatives. Its major objective was to collectively review and evaluate the work and experiences of CAFRA's National Representatives, and to chart a plan of action for the year ahead.

The **II BIENNIAL GENERAL MEETING (BGM)** of the membership took place on 26-28 October, in Trinidad & Tobago. (See *CAFRA News*, Vol. 5 (1), Dec.-Feb. 1991 for reports, impressions, and evaluations of the BGM). The report of the II BGM produced by the CAFRA Office for circulation to the membership and funders includes a compilation of the Evaluations of the BGM.

In 1990, **SECRETARIAT MEETINGS** were continued to be held regularly to give guidance to the work of the CAFRA Staff. **MONTHLY STAFF MEETINGS** were also instituted in 1990, as the Office Staff had grown significantly since

the Office was first opened in 1988 with a staff of two persons (See Appendix I for the current Staff and non-Staff Secretariat members).

Other Indicators

Other indicators of Institutional Development in 1990 included the following:

(a) **INCREASED MEMBERSHIP REGIONALLY AND IN THE DIASPORA:** During 1990, the individual and organisational membership of CAFRA continued to increase (See the membership list circulated in 1990). Women from some Caribbean countries in which CAFRA previously had no members also joined the association, these being Haiti, St. Lucia, Grenada, and St. Eustatius. The appointment of CAFRA National Representatives in these territories remains to be done.

(b) **VISIT TO MEMBER TERRITORIES:** The CAFRA Co-ordinator was invited by the Bahamian member organisation, Developing Alternatives for Women Now (DAWN), to visit the country for a week. Activities organised included: a Meeting with the Co-ordinator of the Women's Affairs Unit in the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Community Affairs; a Luncheon speaking engagement with representatives of women's organisations; a Meeting with the Principal of the College of the Bahamas (COB); a Lecture to the staff of the Humanities Division of the COB; a Lecture to a Sociology class at the COB; an Address to the Bahamas Writers' Association; Consultations with women's organisations; a Speaking engagement to the Women's Arm of a Political Party; Meetings with members

of DAWN; and media engagements including interviews on national radio and television.

CAFRA continues to have problems in linking up with the French-speaking Caribbean territories - what has been suggested by the Secretariat is the visit of a French-speaking CAFRA member to do some networking and public speaking.

(c) **THE LEGAL INCORPORATION OF THE ASSOCIATION IN TRINIDAD & TOBAGO**, under the Companies' Act, Section 31.

(d) **THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVERALL PAYMENTS' SCHEME**, to guide the payments made by the association to staff members, consultants, and members and others travelling on behalf of the association.

(e) **PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND FURNITURE**: The association purchased a second Macintosh SE/30 computer for use in word processing, in-house desktop publication of *CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA*; accounting; and other software applications. A number of other pieces of equipment and furniture were purchased to facilitate the growth of the association.

(f) **INTERNATIONAL FUNDRAISING**: The Co-ordinator undertook a European mission to raise funds for the upcoming three year period, 1991-1993. The mission was also used as a means of expanding CAFRA's current donor agencies to include Churches, Foreign Affairs Ministries of Governments, and Secular organisations. Other fundraising was carried out while visiting the U.S.A. to participate in conferences on behalf of the association, as well as through meetings with funding agencies during their own Caribbean missions. These meetings were also used to discuss the present Caribbean socio-economic situation. Project Co-ordinator, Roberta Clarke was also actively involved in fundraising for the 'Women and the Law' project.

(g) **STAFF MOVEMENTS**: Claudia Kadera, Co-Project Co-ordinator of the 'Women's History and Creative Expression' project left CAFRA for full-time teaching in a High School; and Tina Johnson, CAFRA's Editor/Producer of *CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA* and Administrative Assistant, left Trinidad & Tobago with her family for Mexico in September. This left gaps in the project and administrative staff which were filled by Rowena Kalloo, who combines the Editing/Production of *CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA* with the Co-Project Co-ordination of the 'Women's History and Creative Expression' project; and Cathy Shepherd, who was hired as Administrative Assistant/Documentalist. In addition to these staff changes, Patricia Lee Kong was hired in January as a part-time Clerical Assistant, which was upgraded to a

When I see meetings like CAFRA in spite of the discussion, (in spite) of the anarchy, you identify that Utopia is near - that you can really grab that Utopia, you can feel it in your hands. You know that women from different parts of the Caribbean, very different in other senses - racially, culturally, ... we speak different languages - we behave differently, even though we speak the same language, we have different accents, we have different approaches to life, (yet) we're right here together and fighting for more equality, a more equal society and that makes you feel that you are not alone and that the Utopia that you really want is achievable.

*Milagros Ricourt,
Evaluating the BGM,
CAFRA News, Vol 5 No1.
Dec 1990-Feb 1991.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

In 1990, CAFRA's work would not have been possible without the support of our many members and friends who contributed in a range of ways. We give thanks to the following:

Non-staff members of the Regional Committee, i.e. **non-staff Secretariat members, and all National and Diaspora Representatives**, for voluntary work for and on behalf of the association;

Our membership and subscribers to *CAFRA News/Novedades CAFRA*;

All the **resource people** who helped to make the many regional meetings and workshops, projects and activities held during the year possible;

Sister organisations and other institutions with whom we collaborated on different activities; and

Our donor agencies, for institutional and project support, as follows: the **Canadian High**

Commission (Trinidad & Tobago); the **Canadian International Development Agency/International Non-Governmental Division** (CIDA/INGO); **Canadian Universities' Service Overseas** (CUSO); the **Commonwealth Foundation**; the **NGO Special Programmes Section** of the **Ministry of Development Co-operation** of the **Dutch Government**; the **Ford Foundation**; **Global Fund for Women**; **Humanistisch Instituut Voor Ontwikkelings Samenwerking** (HIVOS); **Interpares**; **MATCH International**⁽ⁱ⁾; **World Association for Christian Communication** (WACC); and the **Women's Programme** of the **World Council of Churches** (WCC).

(i) Please note that the financial contribution made by MATCH International towards the publishing costs of *Creation Fire: A CAFRA Anthology of Caribbean Women's Poetry*, does not appear in our 1990 Audited Financial Statements, since it was given by MATCH (on behalf of CAFRA) directly to Sister Vision Press, Toronto, publisher of the Anthology.

APPENDIX I CURRENT REGIONAL COMMITTEE

REGIONAL COMMITTEE:

Staff:

Co-ordinator
Financial Officer
Administrative Assistant/Documentalist
Editor/Producer of *CAFRA News*,
Novedades CAFRA
Project Co-ordinators
'Women in Caribbean Agriculture'
'Women and the Law'
'Women's History and Creative
Expression'
Bilingual Clerical Assistant
Clerical Assistant

Rawwida Baksh-Soodeen
Ann Marie Sinkia
Cathy Shepherd

Rowena Kalloo

Joan French
Roberta Clarke

Rowena Kalloo/Sybil Seaforth
Julieta Alfonso
Patricia Lee Kong

Non-Staff Secretariat:

Rhoda Reddock
Stephanie Pile
Gemma Tang Nain

National Representatives:

Bahamas
Barbados
Belize
Cuba
Curacao
Commonwealth of Dominica
Dominican Republic
French Guiana
Guyana
Jamaica
Puerto Rico
St. Vincent and the Grenadines
Suriname
Trinidad & Tobago
U.S. Virgin Islands
Diaspora

Marion Bethel
Cecilia Babb
Priscilla Brown
Rita Pereira
Gladys do Rego-Kuster
Josephine Dublin
Elsie Done Molina
Eugenie Rezaire
Janice Jackson
Anne-Marie Bonner
Marilucy Gonzales Baez
Muriel Byam
Nadia Ravelas
Sonia Cualess
Gloria Joseph
Opal Palmer Adisa

During 1990, women from some additional Caribbean countries joined CAFRA, these being Haiti, St. Lucia, Grenada, and St. Eustatius. The appointment of CAFRA National Representatives in these territories remains to be done. CAFRA also continues to have problems in linking up with the French-speaking Caribbean territories. What is most probably required is the visit of a French-speaking CAFRA member to some networking and public speaking.

APPENDIX II REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL MEETINGS ATTENDED ON BEHALF OF CAFRA
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EVENT/DATE/COUNTRY	ORGANISERS	CAFRA's REPRESENTATIVE(S)
Fourth World Assembly on Adult Education, 'Literacy, Popular Education and Democracy; 8-18 January; BANGKOK, THAILAND	International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)	T. Johnson; E. Done Molina
Regional Meeting, 'Working Together for a Regional NGO Strategy of Development'; 16-19 January; JAMAICA	Regional Office, CUSO	R. Baksh- Soodeen
Disciplinary Seminar, 'Alternative Strategies for Agricultural Development; An Analysis of Women and Gender Issues'; 22-26 January; TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Women and Development Studies, University of the West Indies (UWI), Trinidad & Tobago	J. French; R. Clarke
Regional Workshop, 'Strategies for Alternative Development'; 23-24 April; ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES	CARIPEDA	A. Kambon
International Conference, 'Caribbean Women Writers'; 24-27 April; TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Faculty of Arts and General Studies, (UWI), Trinidad & Tobago	R. Espinet; R. Reddock; S. Pile
International Planning Meeting, 'International NGO Forum on The World Bank and the Internal Monetary Fund (IMF); 3-4 May; WASHINGTON, D.C.. U.S.A.	Northern and Southern Non-Governmental Organisations	R. Baksh- Soodeen
'Inter-Regional Meeting'; 6-11 May; BRAZIL	Developing Alternatives With Women for a New Era (DAWN)	T. Johnson

Regional Consultation in preparation for the 1990 Regional Economic Conference; 7-12 May; BARBADOS	CARICOM Secretariat	G. Tang Nain
Meeting of Regional NGOs to brainstorm re. the setting up of the Caribbean (NGO) Policy Unit; 17-18 May; BARBADOS	Caribbean Conference of Churches (CCC)	R. Baksh-Soodeen
International Planning Meeting, 'Women, Violence and Human Rights'; 28-31 May; NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.	Center for Global Issues and Women's Leadership; Rutgers State University	R. Baksh-Soodeen
Fourth International Interdisciplinary Congress on Women, 'Women's Worlds, Realities, and Choices'; 3-9 June; NEW YORK R. Baksh-	Hunter College, CUNY, New York	J. French; A. Morgan; M. Joseph; E. Done-Molina; Soodeen
'Curriculum Development in Women's Studies'; 12-13 June; TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Women and Development Studies Group, U.W.I.	C. Kadera
II Biennial Assembly on 'Integrated Rural Development'; 17-19 July; TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	Caribbean Network for Integrated Rural Development (CNIRD)	R. Clarke; R. Baksh-Soodeen
Management Committee Meetings; 20 July and 13-14 December; TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	CNIRD	R. Baksh-Soodeen
'Eleventh Annual Women's Congress'; 4-5 August; GUYANA	Women's Progressive Organisation (WPO)	C. Babb
Regional 'Documentalists' Workshop'; 9-12 August; PUERTO RICO	Caribbean Project for Justice and Peace (CJIP)	C. Shepherd
'The Vth International Forum on the World Bank and IMF Lending Policies'; 20-22 September; WASHINGTON, D.C.	Northern and Southern Development NGOs	J. French

International Conference in honour
of Audre Lorde, 'I Am Your Sister:
Connections;
5-8 October, BOSTON, U.S.A.

'I AM YOUR
SISTER'
Planning
Committee

Andaiye;
D. Singh-Forging Global
Ramlochan;
A. Morgan;
P. Mac-
Donald;
S. Seaforth

'Thirtieth Anniversary
Celebrations'; October; CUBA

Federacion de
Mujeres Cubanas

R. Bowe-
Darville

'Congress of Family and Child:
Research and Perspectives for
the Decade'; 2-5 November;
CURACAO

Congrecur

A.Reveillac

'Sixth International Women
and Health Meeting'; 3-9
November; PHILIPPINES

Philippines
Organising
Committee

M. Bethel;
A. Ingram-
Roberts

'Fifth Feminist Encounter of
Latin America and the Caribbean';
18-24 November; ARGENTINA

Latin American
Planning
Committee

H.Nicholson;
J. Ross-
Frankson;
P. Mohammed

Disciplinary Seminar, 'Gender and
the Law'; 3-6 December;
BARBADOS

Women and
Development
Studies, U.W.I.

G. Pargass

Appendix III -

List of CAFRA Reports and Publications

REPORTS

Institutional

Report to the General Meeting of CAFRA, the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action, November 1988.

Report of the General Meeting of CAFRA's membership, 12-13 November, 1988.

Report of the Annual Meeting of National Representatives, Project Co-ordinators and the Secretariat (also called the Regional Committee), November 11, 13 and 14, 1989.

Report of the meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action (CAFRA), 25-26 May, 1990.

Report presented to the 2nd Biennial General Meeting of CAFRA (Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action. 26-28 October, 1990, Trinidad & Tobago.

Project Activities

'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' (WICA) Project

Report of the 'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' training course of the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action, held at Layou, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, January 1987.

Women in Caribbean Agriculture: report; Commonwealth of Dominica/ by Cecilia Babb, et al. December 1988.

Women in Caribbean Agriculture: report; St. Vincent and the Grenadines/ by Beverly Warren, et al. December 1988

Introduction to the country reports with summary of main findings/ by Joan French. December 1988.

Report of the regional meeting to present the findings of the 'Women in Caribbean Agriculture' Project/ prepared by Joan French. April 1989.

'CAFRA/ILSA Women's Rights and the Law' Project

Report of the CAFRA/ILSA Regional 'Women's Rights and the Law' project 1987-1988/ prepared by Roberta Clarke. October 1989.

'Women's History and Creative Expression' Project

Report of the Creative Writing Seminar held by the Caribbean Association for Feminist Research and Action, May 15-26, 1989/ submitted by Sybil Seaforth.

Report of the 35mm Photography Workshop, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, March 30- April 6, 1990/ by A. Claudia Kadera.

PUBLICATIONS

CAFRA News

- Vol. 1, no. 1 (March 1987)
- Vol. 1, no. 2 (December 1987)
- Vol. 2, no. 1 (March 1988)
- Vol. 2, no. 2 (June 1988)
- Vol. 2, no. 3 (September 1988): 'Free Trade Zones'
- Vol. 2, no. 4 (December 1988)
- Vol. 3, no. 1 (March 1989)
- Vol. 3, no. 2 (June 1989): 'Women's Creativity'
- Vol. 3, no. 3 (Sept-Nov 1989)
- Vol. 3, no. 4 (Dec 1989-Feb 1990)
- Vol. 4, no. 1 (Mar-May 1990)
- Vol. 4, no. 2 (June-Aug 1990): 'Women and Health'
- Vol. 4, no. 3 (Sept-Nov 1990)
- Vol. 5, no. 1 (Dec 1990-Feb 1991): '2nd Biennial General Meeting'

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- Vol. 1, no. 1 (marzo-mayo 1990)
- Vol. 1, no. 2-3 (junio-nov 1990)
- Vol. 1, no. 4 (diciembre 1990)

Other

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