

# REGIONAL CO-OPERATION IN EXTERNAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS: THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL NEGOTIATING MACHINERY

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1. Context
2. Rationale for Regional Co-operation
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# CONTEXT

## ❖ CARICOM

1. Origins
2. Objectives
3. Membership
4. Characteristics

# CARICOM Economic Indicators

| Country              | Population<br>Thousands | Land Area<br>(km <sup>2</sup> ) | Gross Domestic Product,<br>Current Prices, Billions U.S. dollars |          | Per Capita Gross<br>Domestic<br>Product,<br>U.S. dollars |
|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------------|--|----------|--|
|                      |                         |                                 | 2008   | 2009 (e) | 2008   |
|                      |                         |                                 | Antigua and Barbuda  | 84       | 442  |
| The Bahamas          | 337                     | 38,608                          | 7.5  | 7.3      | 22,156   |
| Barbados             | 276                     | 431                             | 3.7  | 3.8      | 13,356   |
| Belize               | 320                     | 22,966                          | 1.4  | 1.4      | 4,310  |
| Dominica             | 72                      | 750                             | 0.4  | 0.4      | 5,082  |
| Grenada              | 106                     | 345                             | 0.6  | 0.7      | 6,006  |
| Guyana               | 764                     | 216,970                         | 1.1  | 1.2      | 1,480  |
| Haiti                | 8,786                   | 27,750                          | 7.0  | 7.0      | 791  |
| Jamaica              | 2,699                   | 10,991                          | 14.4   | 12.8     | 5,335  |
| Montserrat           | 5                       | 103                             | 0.05 (2007)  |          | 10,000<br>(2007)   |
| St. Kitts and Nevis  | 53                      | 269                             | 0.6  | 0.6      | 10,483   |
| St. Lucia            | 170                     | 616                             | 1.0  | 1.0      | 6,033  |
| St. Vincent & Grens. | 107                     | 389                             | 0.6  | 0.6      | 5,615  |
| Suriname             | 533                     | 163,820                         | 3.0  | 3.3      | 5,599  |
| Trinidad and Tobago  | 1,305                   | 5,182                           | 24.8   | 25.0     | 19,012   |

Source: IMF-WEO and CARICOM Secretariat

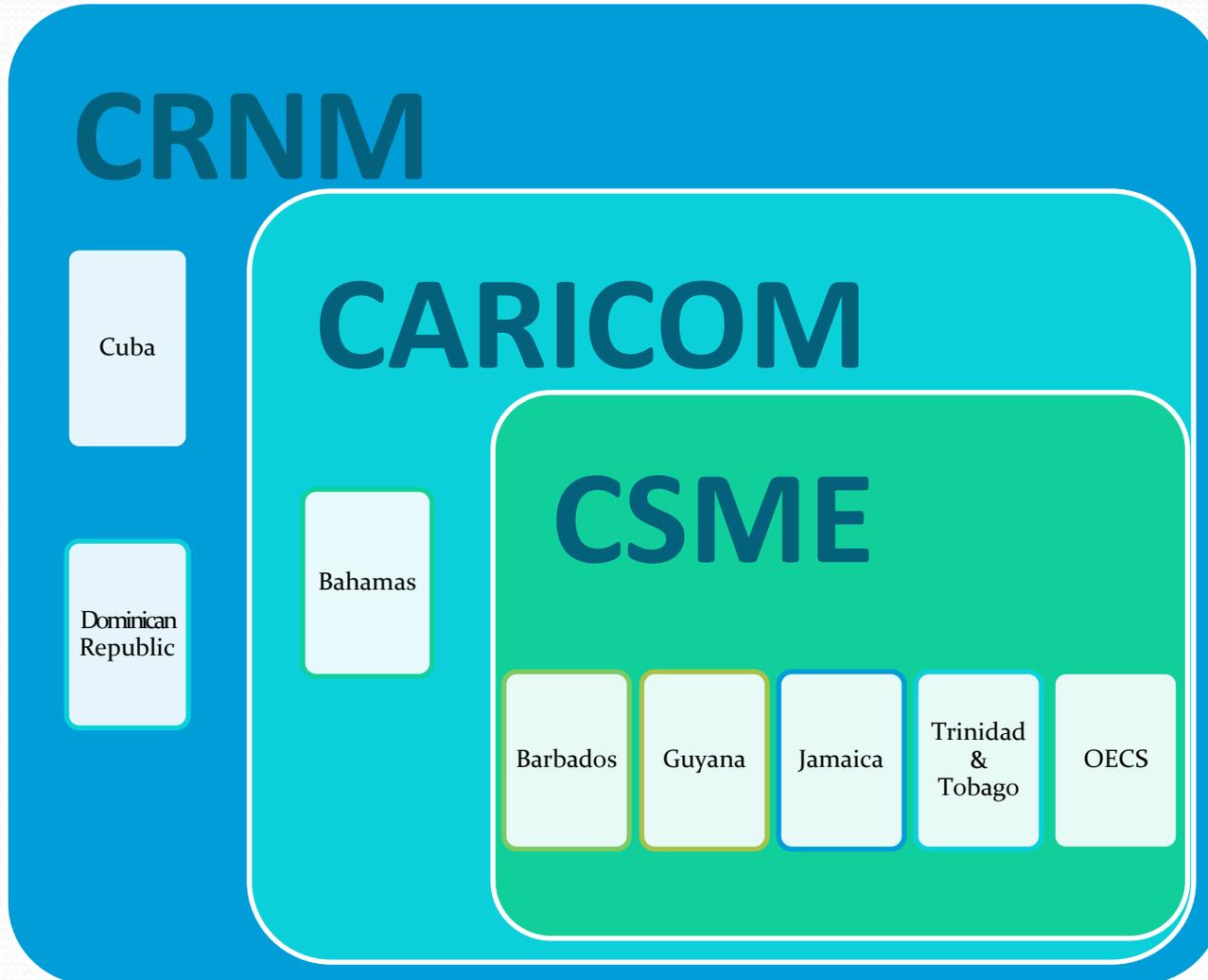
# RATIONALE FOR REGIONAL CO-OPERATION

1. Enhancement of Negotiating Leverage
2. More Effective Participation
3. Reduced Cost of Representation
4. Enhancing Technical and Institutional Capacity

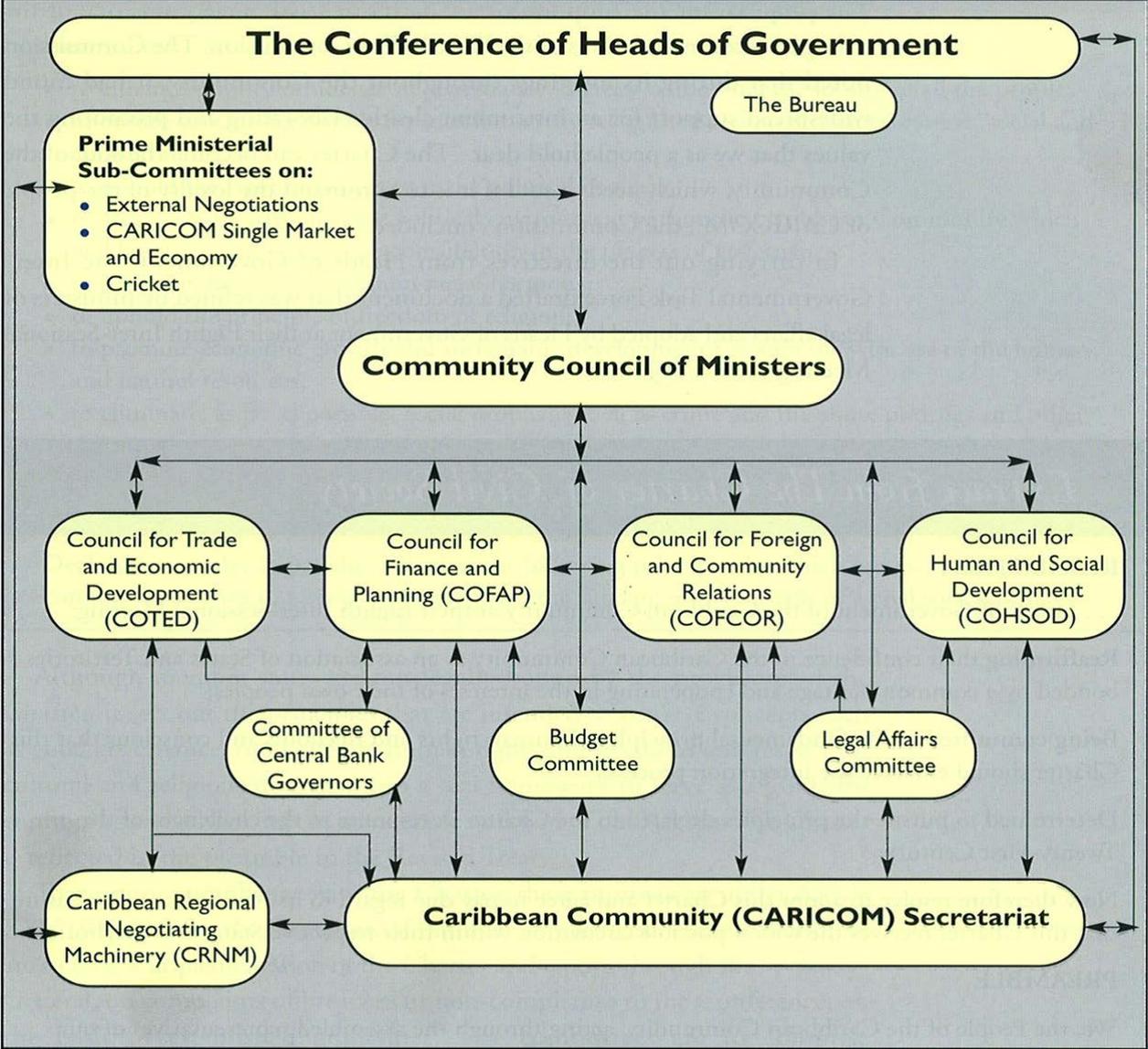
# CARIBBEAN REGIONAL NEGOTIATING MACHINERY

1. Membership
2. Objectives
3. Functions
4. Negotiating theatres
5. Governance
6. Organisation Chart
7. Funding
8. Operation
9. Outreach to Stakeholders

# Membership of Caribbean Regional Institutions

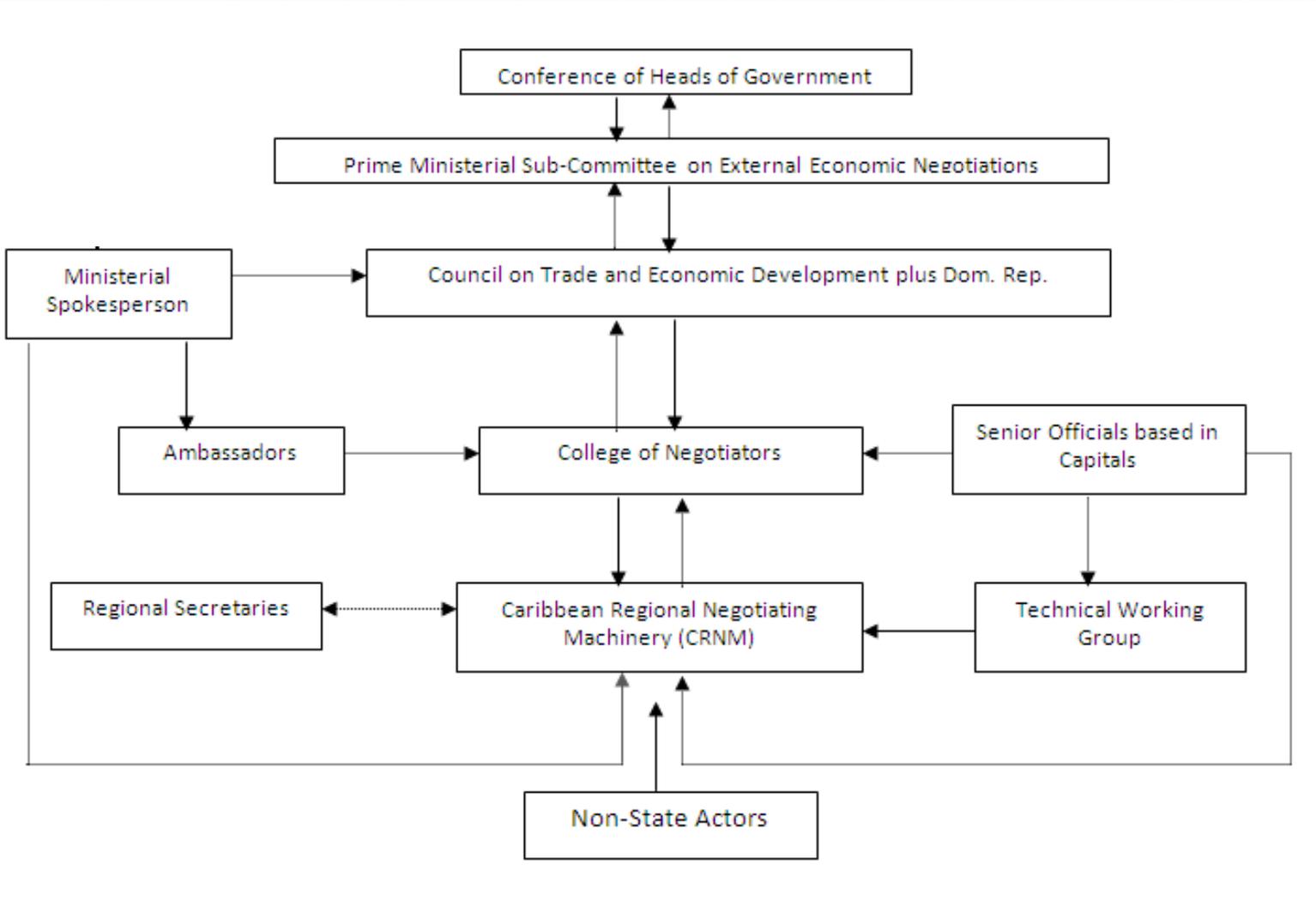


# Organs and Bodies of the Caribbean Community



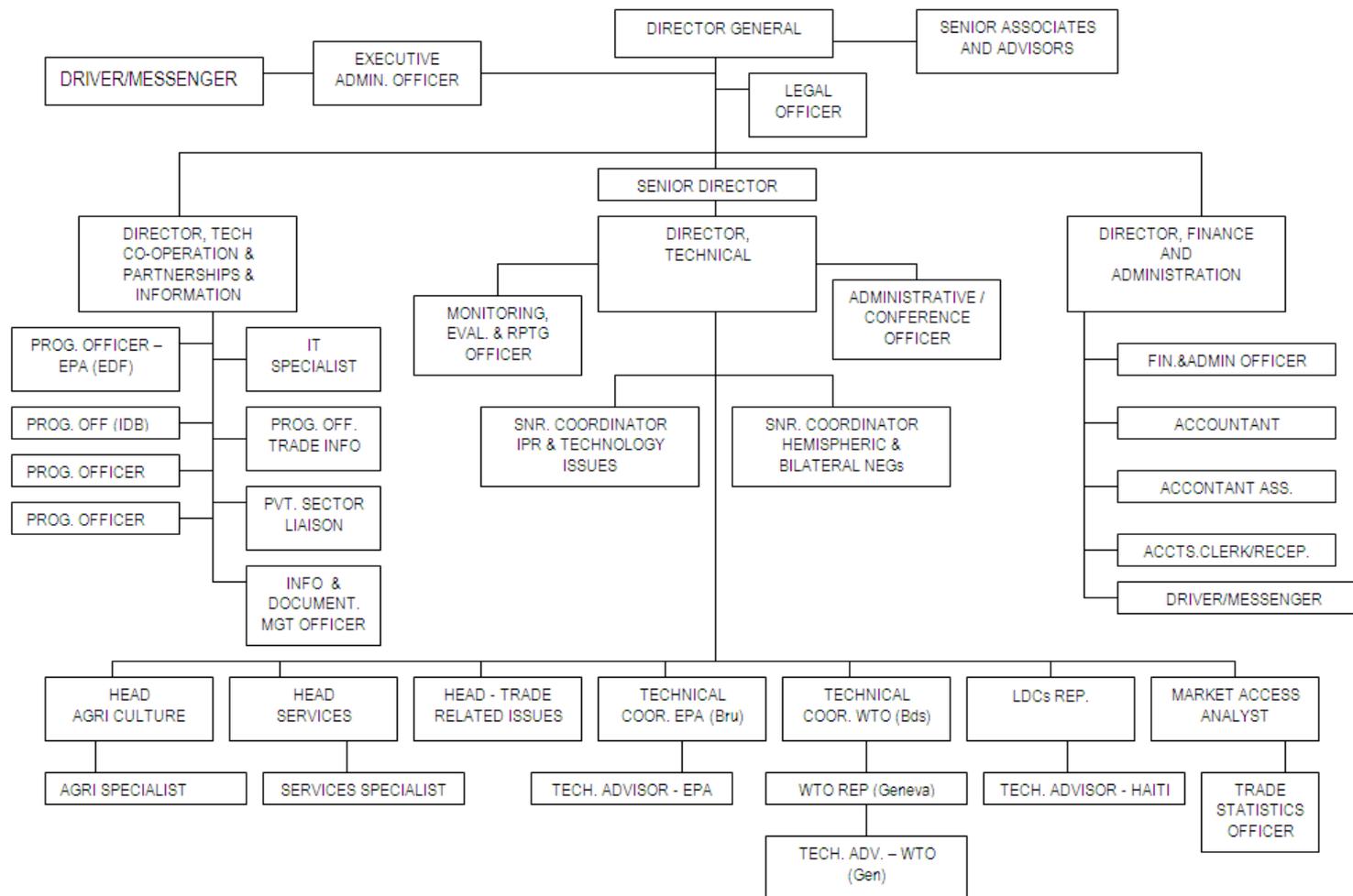
Source: CARICOM Secretariat

# Policy Making and Reporting Structure



# CRNM Organigram

September 2007



# LESSONS LEARNED

1. Consensus Building is made Difficult by Differences
2. Concerted Political Will
3. Willingness to Yield to Collective Sovereignty
4. Distribution of the Benefits
5. Public Awareness and Support
6. Non-Political Drivers
7. Avoiding Parallel Bureaucracies
8. Cost of Regional Governance and Institutions
9. Solid Financial Basis for Regional Institutions

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ESTABLISHING OPERATING & STRENGTHENING REGIONAL INSTITUTIONS

1. Non-Political Drivers
2. Benefits Must Be Tangible
3. Gains Must Outweigh Costs
4. Acceptable Distribution of Gains
5. Regionalism Cannot be Imposed
6. Regional Co-operation is an Integral Dimension
7. Keep Regional Bureaucracies and Governance to a Minimum
8. Public Education for Public Support
9. Realistic Goals Regularly Redacted
10. Multi-Speed Variable Geometry