

**CPACC Teleconference**  
**November 30, 1999**  
**3:00pm**

CPACC first teleconference with the RPIU took place on November 30<sup>th</sup> at approximately 3:00pm. The participants included Walter Vergara, of the World Bank, Jan Vermeiren, Claudio Volonte and Beatriz Santos, of the GS/OAS and Neville Trotz and Leslie Walling, of the CPACC/RPIU. The teleconference was initiated in Mr Walter Vergara's office connecting with Dr. Neville Trotz and Mr. Leslie Walling who were in Melbourne, Florida. The purpose of the teleconference was to review progress on recommendations put forth at the World Bank Midterm Evaluation held in late September, 1999 in Barbados.

**I. Administrative and Financial Issues.**

Access to the University Bursary's Banner System (foreseen for October 13<sup>th</sup>). Progress has been made however the CPACC/RPIU still does not have direct access to the University's accounting system. The computer link was established but the system crashed and technicians have not been able to re-establish it. Neville informed that RPIU is exploring another solution which would involved acquiring a Stand Alone System (SAS). In fact, the University has agreed to install the SAS, using Pat Sealy's computer. For this purpose, Pat's computer would have to be taken off the RPIU LAN and used exclusively for the SAS.

Recommendations made in March 1999 PriceWaterhouse Cooper report. Neville informed that he has received a proposal from PWH dealing with these recommendations. He believes that the proposal, at this time, is rather open-ended. Instead, the work should concentrate on producing an accounting procedural manual for RPIU and improving the linkages between the RPIU, UWI and OAS accounting systems. It was agreed that PWH would complete the work under this new guidelines before the 1999 audit takes place.

Increased Authorized Allocation of \$US300,000. The \$US300,000 was received by GS/OAS in early November. The funds were then transferred to the RPIU account. With this deposit, the RPIU should have about US\$200,000 available for new commitments through January 2000. Claudio is presently preparing a application for withdrawal from World Bank and it is expected to be sent to the Bank before December 15.

1999 OAS-RPIU Audit. Ernest and Young has quoted \$US20,000 as the cost to undertake the 1999 Audit both at OAS Headquarters and RPIU. This amount is a 10% increase from last year's cost. A new quote has been requested from Ernest and Young for only the Washington portion of the Audit. Response has not been received as of yet. Also, a quote has been solicited from PriceWaterhouse Coopers for the Barbados portion of the Audit. A response is pending.

Next World Bank supervision mission. Target date for next World Bank supervision was set for the 1<sup>st</sup> week of April 2000 (Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>). It was agreed that, in addition to review progress on CPACC implementation, the supervision mission will also serve as an identification mission for CPACC II (see below, agenda item V).

## **II. Project Management.**

Hiring of consultants/UWI students. A person has been hired to update the CPACC Website. Discussions have been underway to hire technical back stopping personnel, in particular for Components 3 and 5 and for administrative support. Claudio suggested that the RPIU also consider contracting support for Component 6 activities. Terms of reference for Public Awareness and Component 5 back-stopper have been completed and will be forward to OAS soon.

Ian's duties with SIDSNET nearing completion: he should be able to return full-time to his duties as information system coordinator.

With regards to Component 3, the in-country execution of Component 3 is worrisome. NFPs can not be expected to provide the necessary support because of work overload. In-country consultants would need to be contracted to support Component 3 activities. These consultants could also coordinate data gathering for pilot projects. The person contracted needs to have credibility and the ability to access necessary systems. The project has no line item for this expenditure, therefore there is a need to explore where the funding would come from. It was decided that the RPIU would identify the most appropriate solution for each country.

Strategy to further strengthen the NICU role in project implementation. To date, no feed back has been received from Cletus Springer with regards to the proposed matrix on 1) performance, 2) effectiveness in coordinating activities, and 3) national ownership of project.. Due to the importance of this topic, it was recommended that, before the end of the year, the RPIU prepares a first draft of this matrix based on their experience with NICUs.

CARICOM and Climate Change. It had been proposed to request CARICOM to include climate change in the agenda of its Heads of Government meeting. This is still under consideration. The draft Public Awareness Strategy includes an aggressive campaign to raise issues of climate change at the highest levels. Initial communications have been established with Prime Minister Bird of Antigua and Barbuda to pursue this with CARICOM. Furthermore, Neville will contact CARICOM's Secretary General to request his advice on how to proceed.

Neville has requested the opportunity to hold a CPACC Presentation at the Heads Meeting (June 2000) which will center not only on an update on CPACC but also to seek endorsement for the Caribbean Climate Change Center (CCCC) and of CPACC II. RPIU is preparing a set of activities leading to the Heads Meeting, including a Workshop on Climate Change for Regional Press/Media.

Progress Report and Operating Plans. These documents should be ready by mid January. The RPIU requested that Claudio travels to Barbados to work on both these documents in mid-December.

## **III. Changes to project structure**

With regards to the feasibility of expanding pilot Component 8 pilot to all participating countries, Neville informed that this is not possible due to time and resource constraints. It was

proposed that a regional workshop should be organized to disseminate information and to provide guidance to countries who want to replicate this component. In addition, some follow-up support to these other countries could be provided by the consultants working on this component. Walter asked for a written communication from the RPIU outlining the proposed strategy, to be forwarded through the OAS to the Bank before the end of the year.

A consultant is on board to support Component 8. He visited Antigua and Barbuda. It was decided that in the case of Antigua and Barbuda, the component will focus on the tourism sector. Unfortunately, the consultant could not complete his mission to St. Kitts because of Hurricane Lenny.

#### **IV. Public Awareness Strategy.**

A new draft of the strategy will be sent to the OAS by the beginning of next week. The OAS and RPIU will explore tapping into additional GEF Secretariat resources to assist with the regional public campaign. In addition, the OAS has secured about \$35,000 from FEMCIDI funding to assist in the execution of the strategy.

#### **V. Project Sustainability.**

CPACC II & Caribbean Climate Change Centre (CCCC) Concept Paper. It was agreed that it was time to start discussing CPACC II. Neville will begin identification of the stakeholders to (1) support CPACC II and (2) decide the type of activities to be undertaken in the second phase of CPACC.

Claudio has prepared a mid-size concept paper for the establishment of the CCCC. He will send it to Neville and Al Binger to receive comments before the proposal is sent to the World Bank and GEF.

The GEF representatives, from the Secretariat and from the World Bank, were consulted during COP5 and agreed in principle with the concept that a proposal will be prepared for a mid-size grant. Attention was called to the timing of submission. It is important that the CCCC be operational before CPACC II so that it can act as co-executing agency of CPACC II.

Support from other finding sources. Walter informed that he has met with Christian Cruz of DANSET, Danish Government, and that they expressed interest in supporting the CCCC. Walter to forward the CCCC proposal as soon as it is available.

Jan informed that he had met with officials from the French government that also seem very interested in supporting the establishment of the Centre, however no concrete information was provided. Neville informed also that CIDA, Canada, has also expressed interest in supporting the CCCC. UWI administration officials (Mosely and Wayne Hunte) have also expressed their support to the CCCC.

Update on regional modeling meeting. The meeting took place at Florida Institute of Technology to discuss regional models of climate change. Scientists at UWI-Mona campus are working on climate variability models that need to be integrated with climate change models. The Canadian climate change model will be transferred to UWI-Cave Hill campus, involving the

exchange of personnel. A network of regional and international scientists will be put in place by July of 2000.

CIIHM Replacement Fund. The Memorandum of Understanding between the GS/OAS and CIMH has been reviewed and accepted by all parties. Once it is signed, GS/OAS will deposit \$50,000 into the fund. The actual transfer will not take place until January.

MOU between GS/OAS and participating countries regarding implementation of CPACC. The OAS and RPIU will prepare a communication to Permanent Secretaries and NFPs expressing CPACC's desire to review and update the country agreements signed with the OAS at the beginning of CPACC implementation in light of current activities, actual responsibilities and long-term institutional commitments. This communication should be ready to be sent out in early January 2000.

Information products. Lee Chapin has forwarded a proposal for his next year's work program. Part of his work will include the implementation of several activities regarding potential sources of funding to support Component 1 sustainability.

The teleconference concluded at 4:30pm. All parties were satisfied with the information exchanged and the idea of regular teleconference calls to review project implementation supported. **The next teleconference was scheduled for January 30, 2000.**