



*Organisation of Eastern Caribbean  
States*



*International Labour Organization*

## **Memorandum of Understanding**

**Between**

**The International Labour Organization**

**And**

**The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States**

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**The International Labour Organization**

**and**

**The Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States**

WHEREAS, the International Labour Organization, (hereinafter referred to as "the ILO") represented by the International Labour Office, in the person of the Regional Director for the ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, located at Las Flores 275 San Isidro, P.O. Box 14-124, Lima 27, Peru and the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States (hereinafter referred to as "the OECS"), an international organization established by the Treaty of Basseterre, 1981, located at Morne Fortune, P.O. Box 179, Castries, Saint Lucia, share a desire to cooperate in the field of Decent Work, Labour, Employment Policies and Development Issues.

The ILO and the OECS (hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties") agree as follows:

### **I. PURPOSE**

- 1.1. With this Memorandum of Understanding the Parties wish to express their intention to collaborate on matters relating to the national development of the countries of the OECS, including strategies and programmes in the context of poverty reduction strategies (PRS), development assistance frameworks, and Decent Work Country Programmes.
- 1.2. The OECS and the ILO, in taking due cognizance of the competencies of each organization, will seek to establish an operational framework and practical modalities to facilitate such cooperation in fields that will be identified in bi-annual, joint technical meetings.
- 1.3. The OECS and the ILO recognize the progress by the sub-region towards deeper integration, and more specifically the provision of the free movement of (individual and legal) persons within the OECS Economic Union, and will aim to establish functioning support and functional modalities to this purpose.
- 1.4. Initially, the Parties will focus on the design and implementation of a Labour Market Information (LMI) Strategy and a three-year Action Plan for the sub-region.

## **II. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES AND RESOURCES**

The ILO and the OECS will communicate the areas of strategic interest for both organizations as well as action plans in those areas. Initially this will focus on LMI programmes and activities and include collaboration in the design stage, related sub-regional consultations and technical support; sourcing of funding for the developmental stage of LMI activities and promoting the ongoing funding of LMI activities from national sources.

## **III. CONTACT POINTS**

- 3.1. The Director General of the OECS will be the official contact person under this MoU;  
The contact details are:  
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States  
Morne Fortune  
P O Box 179  
Castries,  
Saint Lucia  
Phone: (758) 452-2537/(758) 455-6327  
Fax: (758) 453-1628  
E-mail: [lishmael@oeecs.org](mailto:lishmael@oeecs.org)
- 3.2. The Director of the ILO Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean, or an ILO official designated by her, will be the official ILO contact point under this MoU. The contact details are:  
ILO Sub-regional Office for the Caribbean  
PO Box 1201  
Stanmore House  
6 Stanmore Avenue  
Port of Spain  
Trinidad and Tobago  
Telephone: (868) 623-7704; 623-7178; 623-3359  
Fax: (868) 627-8978  
Email: [romero@ilocarib.org.tt](mailto:romero@ilocarib.org.tt)

## **IV. OTHER PROVISIONS**

- 4.1. Both Parties shall exercise their right and perform their obligations appropriately in order to ensure that this MoU is implemented as planned.
- 4.2. Annex 1 forms an integral part of this MoU. In the event that the terms contained in Annex 1 are incompatible with those contained in this MoU, then the latter shall govern and prevail.

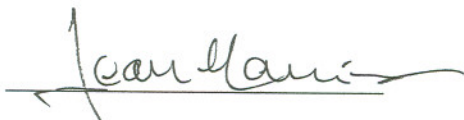


- 4.3. Nothing in this MoU or relating thereto shall be construed as constituting a waiver of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by the ILO in any member State.
- 4.4. The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes or controversies arising out of or in connection with this MoU or the interpretation thereof.
- 4.5. Any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this MoU, or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof - which cannot be settled amicably within sixty (60) days - shall be settled by arbitration in accordance with the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law Arbitration Rules (UNCITRAL). The Parties hereto agree to be bound by any arbitration award rendered in accordance with this provision as the final adjudication of any dispute.

## **V. ENTRY INTO FORCE, MODIFICATION AND TERMINATION**

- 5.1. The Parties may by their written mutual consent, amend any of the provisions of this MoU.
- 5.2. This MoU shall remain in force as from the date of its signature by both Parties, unless terminated earlier by either Party in accordance with the termination provision below.
- 5.3. After consultations have taken place between the Parties, either Party may give the other Party written notice of termination of this MoU. Termination shall take effect ninety (90) days after receipt of the notice. Notwithstanding the expiry of the notice of termination, the Parties agree that the provisions of this MoU shall remain in full force to the extent necessary to promote the orderly conclusion of any activity undertaken pursuant to Article II of this MoU.
- 5.4. This MoU, superseding all communications on this matter between the Parties, shall enter into force upon its signature by the authorized representatives of the Parties, whose names appear below.

For the  
International Labour Organization



Jean Maninat  
Regional Director  
ILO Regional Office for Latin America  
and the Caribbean

For the  
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean  
States



Len Ishmael, Ph.D.  
Director General  
Organisation of Eastern Caribbean and  
States

Date: 18 July 2008

Date: 20 August 2008



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## **Annex 1: LMI Programme details**



## **I. MAIN OBJECTIVES**

The principal objective of the collaboration between the OECS and the ILO is to stimulate and facilitate the planning of Labour Market Information (LMI) Systems in the OECS countries. A planned approach to developing LMI in the sub-region will facilitate the harmonization of systems, methodologies and output, and improve the effectiveness and impact of technical and other support provided to OECS Member States.

In this planned approach to LMI in the OECS countries, the OECS Secretariat and ILO agree to promote the following specific objectives in this area:

- adoption of a sub-regional LMI strategy and three-year LMI country plans that aim at establishing or strengthening Labour Market Systems in the OECS in order to involve all stakeholders in the planning process, avoid duplication, promote collaboration, ensure the availability of funding, maximize the return on investment in these systems and ensure continuity;
- strengthening, establishing and harmonizing the basic data sources and infrastructure identified in the LMI strategy and three-year plans based on the typical conditions that exist in the OECS region and the provisions of the OECS Economic Union;
- promoting the dissemination and use of LMI in social, macro-economic, labour and employment analyses and policies by establishing and strengthening the necessary infrastructure, human capability and public information channels; and
- generating synergies between ILO and OECS in related activities at country level in support of national development plans and programmes, including in the context of poverty reduction strategies (PRS), development assistance frameworks and common country assessments and Decent Work Country Programmes.

## **II. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

The ILO and OECS will strengthen their collaboration in areas of common strategic interest. This will include the following:

- the adoption of strategies and plans on LMI in the OECS region, including collaboration on LMI programmes and activities in the design stage, related sub-regional consultations and technical support;
- the mobilization of resources for developmental activities in the area of LMI and promoting the ongoing funding of LMI activities from national sources;
- technical backstopping of the implementation of LMI programmes and activities including promoting the sharing of information and knowledge;

- training in labour market information, including international standards on labour statistics (concepts, definitions, methods and analysis) and the management of labour market information for stakeholders and trainers; and
- dissemination of LMI including the establishment of a sub-regional Labour Market Information dissemination system.

### **III. MODALITIES OF COLLABORATION**

1. The design of a joint work programme to implement the LMI programme consisting of:
  - a. A series of joint national consultations of OECS and ILO technical units with the respective national counterparts that aim to produce:
    - i) country situational analyses;
    - ii) outlines for national three-year LMI plans; and
    - iii) the outline of an OECS-wide LMI strategy.
  - b. An institutionalized tripartite meeting of OECS aimed at adopting
    - i) a sub-regional LMI strategy;
    - ii) an advisory mechanism for its implementation; and
    - iii) a resource mobilization strategy.
2. Establishment of a regional technical capability for LMI at the OECS Secretariat.

### **IV. MONITORING AND EVALUATION**

The implementation of the collaboration will be reviewed at appropriate senior technical and management levels at the end of each two-year ILO planning cycle and/or after any intervening period as so agreed by the Parties. Operational interaction at the level of OECS Member States will be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis and brief reports will also be submitted to the principals of both Parties on an annual basis. The time period may be amended by mutual written agreement of the OECS and ILO.