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CONSTITUTION OF THE CARIBBEAN AGRO-ECONOMIC SOCIETY

(Approved in Jamaica at the conclusion of the Ninth West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference Business Meeting of April 8, 1974)

Section 1. Title

The title shall be the Caribbean Agro-Economic Society.

Section 2. Interpretation

Society means the Caribbean Agro-Economic Society.

Regional means within the Caricom area.

Section 3. Objectives

- (a) To provide a forum for the examination of all agricultural institutions, policies, systems and practices in the region.
- (b) To focus attention on the economic problems of agricultural production and marketing with a view to improving economic efficiency.
- (c) To facilitate exchange and flow of ideas between universities, regional and government institutions and the private sector with respect to matters related to the economics of agricultural production and related industries.
- (d) To disseminate agricultural information throughout the region.
- (e) To adopt a regional approach to the collection, collation and analysis of agricultural data.
- (f) To establish a closer working relationship between the public and private sectors in agricultural production and marketing.
- (g) To publish available material for the benefit of the whole region.

Section 4. Organisational Structure

1. *The Governing Body.* The Governing Body of the Society shall be the controlling authority and shall be responsible for planning, administration and execution of the policies and programmes of the Society.
2. The Executive (Planning) Committee shall consist of the following offices and a membership not exceeding twelve (12) persons:

<i>President</i>	- principal fund raiser
<i>Vice President</i>	- responsible for liaising with country representatives and other duties assigned.
<i>General Secretary</i>	- responsible for convening meetings, keeping records and minutes, co-ordination of Society's activities and other duties assigned.

- Deputy Secretaries* (1) - responsible for publication of conference proceedings, newsletters and other publications as may be authorised from time to time.
- (2) - Conference co-ordinator at the local level.
- (3) - responsible for co-ordinating conference series with the respective host Governments.
- (4) - responsible for co-ordinating the Society's activities with the Caricom Secretariat.
- Treasurer* - responsible for safe keeping of Society's funds and property, collection of all dues, contributions, disbursement of funds, control of fund-raising efforts and all other related matters.

Section 5. Executive Membership

1. The Executive Committee of the Society shall comprise persons representing the following areas:
 - (a) One representative from each of the participating territories (country representatives).
 - (b) One representative from each of the university campuses in the participating regional territories.
 - (c) One representative from each regional body.
 - (d) Each representative so elected to the Executive Committee shall name an alternate, with the approval of the Executive Committee.
2. Officers of the Executive Committee shall be drawn from those eligible for membership as set out in 1.

Section 6. General Membership

1. General membership shall be drawn from participating territories, regional institutions and other interested persons and institutions. Membership in the case of other interested persons and institutions shall be decided upon by the Executive Committee.
2. Membership fees shall be EC\$10 per annum per person payable at each Annual West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference.
3. An entrance fee will be charged in addition to the annual membership fee, for admission to membership of the Society after the conclusion of the Tenth West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference.

Section 7. Organisation of the Conference Series

1. The Conference Series shall be organised by a Conference Committee and a Local Organising Committee.
2. The Conference Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee and shall consist of not more than nine persons with the President as Chairman.
3. The Conference Committee shall be responsible for the overall running of the Conference but shall be concerned principally with policy and technical aspects of the Conference.
4. The Local Organising Committee shall be directly responsible to the Conference Committee and shall be in charge, under direction, for the organisation of the annual conference session. The officers of the Local Organising Committee shall normally consist of the following offices and members: Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer and such other officers and members the Chairman and Secretary may deem desirable. At least one officer of the Local Organising Committee shall be a member of the Conference Committee.

Section 8. Headquarters

1. The Headquarters of the Society shall be in Barbados.
2. The Executive Committee shall register the Society and open an account with a reputable bank in Barbados for financial transactions.

Section 9. Business Meeting

1. A Business Meeting shall be held at every Annual West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference and shall be chaired by the President.
2. The membership of the Business Meeting shall include the Executive Committee, the Conference Committee, the Local Organising Committee and a representative from each participating territory, regional university campus and regional institutions if not already represented.
3. Only members shall vote at any Business Meeting and the Chairman shall have an original as well as a casting vote.

Section 10. Amendments

The Constitution shall be amended by a two-third vote at a Business Meeting, with two weeks notice to be given by the Secretary to members of the Executive of the intended amendment proposal, and six weeks notice to be given to the Secretary of the Executive Committee by the proposer and seconder of the resolution in advance of the opening date of the West Indies Agricultural Economics Conference.

Section 11. Other Matters

1. Matters which are not dealt with by the Constitution shall be decided upon by the Executive.
2. The Executive shall interpret the provisions of the Constitution and on all such matters its decision shall be final and binding.

THEME :

"THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN AGRICULTURE AND OTHER SECTORS
WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE COMPETITION FOR
RESOURCES IN THE COMMONWEALTH CARIBBEAN"