



**The PCRC-ECSIEP
Joint Programme
on the
Lomé Convention**



**The Barbados Programme of Action and the Lomé
Convention**

**a Comparison between
the Programme of Action for the Sustainable
Development of Small Island Developing States
and the fourth revised Lomé Convention.**

**Pacific Concerns Resource Centre Inc. (PCRC), Fiji
European Centre on Pacific Issues (ECSIEP) The
Netherlands**

July 1997

Contents

- Introduction
- I Climate Change and Sea Level Rise
- II Natural and Environmental Disasters
- III Management of Wastes
- IV Coastal and Marine Resources
- V Freshwater Resources
- VI Land Resources
- VII Energy Resources
- VIII Tourism
- IX Biodiversity Resources
- X National Institutions and Administrative Capacity
- XI Regional Institutions and Technical Co-operation
- XII Transport and Communication
- XIII Science and Technology
- XIV Human Resource Development
- Conclusions

Introduction

The Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in held in Barbados 1994, was the first Conference of states following the UNCED Conference of 1992 in Rio at which Agenda 21 was adopted. Small island developing states were under Agenda 21 recognised as a special case for environment and development because of their vulnerability, fragility, small size, geographic dispersion and isolation. At the Barbados Conference the areas of importance for sustainable development of small island developing countries were discussed. The special value of the Conference is that the fourteen priority areas are elaborated into a Programme of Action, which contains specific actions that are needed on the national, the regional and the international level.

Many small island developing states are signatories to the Lomé Convention between the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) States and the European Union. The fourth Lomé Convention was revised in 1995 in Mauritius. The Lomé Convention gives special attention to island countries in this agreement: "For the landlocked and island ACP States, co-operation shall be aimed at devising and encouraging specific operations to deal with development problems caused by their geographical situations" (ACP-EU, 1995:art.8).

This paper will illustrate that within the current Convention there are already possibilities to implement part of the actions identified in the Barbados Programme of Action. In a future co-operation between the EU and the ACP, the challenge for the small island developing countries that are part of the ACP-group, is to find ways to improve the cohesion between the agreement with the EU and the Barbados Programme of Action. In this way the co-operation between the EU and the small island developing countries of the ACP-group could become more relevant to the sustainable development of the latter by making use of the already elaborated actions.

The paper treats the priority areas which are treated in the first fourteen chapters of the Barbados Programme of Action and looks at which parts of the fourth revised Lomé Convention coincide with these actions. The last chapter on implementation, monitoring and review is not included. The paper does not have the pretension to handle the subject exhaustively, but indicates in general lines the congruence between the two. To make the text more clearly structured for the reader, the quotations from the Barbados Programme of Action are printed in italics and the quotations from the Lomé Convention are reproduced in bold characters.

I. Climate Change and Sealevel Rise

For small island developing states, the vulnerability to global climate change, climatic variability and sealevel rise, is very important since many people, the agriculture and infrastructure are situated in the coastal zone. For some low lying atolls, sealevel rise poses a major threat to their survival. This is why the Barbados Programme of Action pays extensive attention to the problem and identifies several points for action to be undertaken. On the national level these consist of: ratification and access to relevant conventions such as the Framework Convention on Climate Change, monitoring, surveying and collection of data on climate change and sealevel rise, formulation of adjustment and mitigation policies, assessment of socio-economic impacts, improve public and political understanding, formulation of strategies to adapt to climate change and a more efficient use of resources. Regional action is required to ensure regional co-operation on these issues. On the international level support is needed, among others, for small island developing states to develop integrated coastal management plans, provide access to financial and technical resources for the monitoring of climate variability and for the adaptation to climate change (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:1).

The Lomé Convention pays attention in its Title on Environment to major ecological hazards. The parties of the Convention: **"recognise the value of exchanging views, using existing consultation mechanisms under this Convention, on major ecological hazards, whether on a planetary scale (such as the greenhouse effect, the deterioration of the ozone layer,.."** **"Such consultations may be requested by either Party, insofar these hazards may in practice affect the contracting parties, and will be aimed at assessing the scope for joint action to be undertaken within the terms of this Convention. If necessary, the consultations will also provide for an exchange of views prior to discussions conducted on these subjects in the appropriate international fora"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.41). The latter part has a link to the last point on international action with regard to climate change, which is to: *"Provide improved access to financial and technical resources to assist small island developing states, which are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change, in meeting the costs associated with the development of national and regional strategies, measures and methodologies to facilitate adequate adaptation to climate change"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: I.C.vii).

In the protocol of the Lomé Convention on sustainable management of forest resources, the long term sustainable development of forests is envisaged with a link to climate change, while the development of the forests should be in conformity with: **"the Rio Declaration of Principle on the Environment and Development including the non-legally binding Forest Principles, the UN framework agreement on climatic changes and the Conventions on Biodiversity and Desertification"** (ACP-EU, 1995:protocol 10).

The Barbados Programme of Action states that international action should be undertaken to: *"Provide access to environmentally sound and energy efficient technology to assist small island developing states conserve energy"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: I.C.v). In the Lomé Convention, in its title on Energy development this issue is touched upon, by mentioning that: **"In view of the seriousness of the energy situation in the majority of the ACP states,.., and in view of the effects the use of fossil fuels have on the**

climate, the ACP States and the Community agree to co-operate in this area with a view to finding solutions to their energy problems. In energy co-operation particular emphasis shall be placed on energy programming, operations for saving and making efficient use of energy, reconnaissance of energy potential and the economically and technologically appropriate promotion of new and renewable sources of energy" (EC, 1995: p.32, article 105).

II Natural and Environmental disasters

Natural disasters can be extremely damaging for small island developing states. The disasters they are prone to consist primarily of cyclones, volcanic eruptions and earthquakes. Other disasters such as storm surges, landslides, extended droughts and extensive floods can occur in some islands. Due to climate change these disasters are perceived to happen more frequently. They have a large impact on the people, environment and economies of the small countries. The Barbados Programme of Action identifies several actions which are needed for the countries to be better prepared for and be better able to respond to natural disasters. Among these actions are: establishment and/or strengthening of disaster preparedness and management institutions and policies, strengthening of the capacity of local broadcasting, establishment of a national disaster fund and integration of disaster policies into national development planning. On the regional level, the attention is mainly for establishing and/or strengthening of regional institutions, and co-operation and sharing of experiences, information and resources in the field of natural and environmental disasters, and also for telecommunications and communication systems. From the international side action is expected in assisting the small island developing states in establishing national and regional institutional mechanisms to deal with disaster preparedness and reduction of the impact, improving access to technology, and provision of technical support and training (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:II).

The Lomé Convention does not pay a lot of specific attention to natural and environmental disasters. Under the instruments of co-operation, however, it is mentioned as one of the sectors of intervention of development finance co-operation: **"assisting ACP States in the fields of disaster prevention and preparedness, including prediction and early-warning systems, with a view to reducing the consequences of disasters"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.229.2b). With this article, a lot of the actions identified in the Barbados Programme of Action are generally covered. The problem of extensive drought, which is present in some island countries, is addressed in the articles on drought and desertification control (ACP-EU, 1995:art.54-7).

III Management of Wastes

The Lomé Convention does not address issues of waste management in ACP countries, such as mentioned in the first two points of the Barbados Programme of Action. It does have a separate article on hazardous and radio active waste. The Barbados Programme of Action sees for the national level the need to: "*ban importation of hazardous wastes and other wastes subject to the Basle Convention, including hazardous wastes and other wastes destined for recycling and recovery operations*". On the regional level action is foreseen in establishing "*regional mechanisms, including conventions where appropriate to, among others, protect the oceans seas and coastal areas from, among others, transboundary movement of toxic and hazardous waste, consistent with international law*". On the international level, countries "*should prohibit the transboundary movement of hazardous and radioactive wastes and materials within their jurisdiction, consistent with international law*" (Barbados Programme of Action: III.A.B.C.).

In article 39 of the Lomé Convention is laid down that: "**the Contracting Parties undertake, for their part, to make every effort to ensure that international movements of hazardous waste and radioactive waste are generally controlled, and they emphasise the importance of efficient international co-operation in this area**" (ACP-EU, 1995:art.39). With this in view, the Community shall "**prohibit all direct or indirect export of such waste to the ACP States while at the same time the ACP States shall prohibit the direct or indirect import into their territory of such waste from the Community or from any other country , without prejudice to specific international undertakings to which the Contracting parties have subscribed or may subscribe in the future in these two areas within the international competent fora**"(idem). The provisions do not apply to the cases where an ACP country has chosen to export waste for processing to a Member State after which the waste is returned to the ACP country of origin. Furthermore will the Contracting Parties expedite adoption of the necessary internal legislation and administrative regulations to implement this undertaking. This is also part of the national action that is proposed in the Barbados Programme of Action. The Parties to the Convention stated that the implementation of the prohibition measures will be strictly monitored. To define hazardous waste, the categories of products of the annexes of the Basle Convention are used. For radioactive waste, until there will be definitions laid down in the framework of the IAEA, there are definitions included in the annex to the Convention.

The Barbados Programme of Action identifies the need to develop and implement measures and standards for the reduction, prevention, control and monitoring of toxic hazardous and solid wastes such as sewage, herbicides pesticides, etc (III.A.ii). On the issue of pesticides, the Community agreed in the Lomé Convention to provide the ACP States at their request: "**available technical information on pesticides and other chemical products, with a view to helping them develop or reinforce a suitable and safe use of these products**" (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 40).

IV Coastal and Marine Resources

The Lomé Convention addresses part of the issues that the Barbados Programme of Action deals with in this chapter. Where the Barbados Programme of Action pays extensive attention to coastal management and marine resource management, in the Lomé Convention the main focus is on fisheries.

The Barbados Programme of Action calls for several actions on the national, regional and international levels in order to ensure appropriate and effective management of the coastal and marine resources. Integrated coastal zone management plans and strategies, the design for monitoring of the resources, development and strengthening of national capabilities for sustainable harvesting and processing of fishery resources, are actions that should be taken on the national level. On the regional level action is to be taken in strengthening the capacity of regional organisations to undertake activities in coastal and marine areas, develop regional clearing houses for coastal and marine management, enhance negotiating skills and strengthen regional surveillance capacity. International action is necessary on developing mechanisms for the gathering and sharing of information and expertise on the coastal and marine resources. This is also one of the objectives of the co-operation in the development of fisheries in the Lomé Convention: **"to improve knowledge of the fisheries environment and its resources"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art. 59).

The second point for international action in the Barbados Programme of Action in the field of fisheries is the co-operation in: *"facilitating mutually advantageous fishing agreements between small island developing states and foreign fishing groups"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:IV.C.ii). The issue of fishing agreements is also part, and an important one, of the Convention. Both parties recognise the sovereign rights of coastal states over the marine resources in their exclusive economic zones and the ACP States recognise that there is a role for the fishing fleets of the Community Members in the development of the fishery potential and declare willingness to negotiate agreements with the Member States **"aimed at guaranteeing mutually satisfactory conditions for fishing activities of vessels flying the flag of one of the Member States of the Community"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art. 64). The Barbados Programme of Action calls upon a regional approach in harmonising policies and strategies for co-ordination of the sustainable management and utilisation of coastal and marine resources. With regard to fishery access in the Lomé Convention, the value of a regional approach is recognised and moves of ACP States to harmonise the arrangements for access for fishing vessels shall be supported (ACP-EU, 1995:art.66).

In the Barbados Programme of Action the small island developing states call on the international level for support in *"establishing regional and national capabilities for effective surveillance and monitoring of activities within their exclusive economic zones and in developing inventories of marine resources and regional approaches to the sustainable management of their exclusive economic zones and in the strengthening of regional marine research centres"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:IV.C.iv). Through the Lomé Convention, the Community envisages support for fisheries development in the same area: **"fisheries management and protection, including the assessment of fish stocks and aquacultural potential, the improvement of environmental monitoring and control and the development of ACP States' coastal capacities for a rational management of the fishery resources in their**

exclusive economic zones" (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 60b). In the Title on Regional Co-operation the need for a regional approach is stressed again, with particular attention for the surveillance of the economic zones (ACP-EU, 1995: art.159c). The need for training and strengthening of capacity in fisheries and coastal management are highly stressed in the Barbados Programme of Action. This is an area in the co-operation between the EC and the ACP-states that receives particular attention in the Convention: **"the training of ACP Nationals in all areas of fisheries, .. the development and strengthening of ACP research capabilities and .. the promotion of intra-ACP and regional co-operation in fisheries management and development"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.61). Island ACP States are among the ACP States that will receive particular attention in the co-operation to **"maximise their capabilities to manage their fishery resources"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.62).

V Freshwater Resources

The importance of good water management is stressed in the Barbados Programme of Action, because of the constraints in quality and quantity of freshwater. Threats for the freshwater supplies in small island developing states come from contamination by human and livestock waste, low groundwater recharge in times of drought, salt water intrusion and inundation as a result of climate change and sealevel rise. In the Lomé Convention the need for good water management is integrated in the articles on agricultural development, food security and rural development, and is mainly linked to the increase of crop production, and drought control. The sustainability of the measures that should be aimed at is not lost out of sight which follows from one of the objectives in this area of co-operation: **"protecting the natural environment particularly through specific operations to protect and conserve ecosystems and to fight against drought, desertification and deforestation"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art. 42).

Several actions, policies and measures are proposed in the Barbados Programme of Action on the national, regional and international level with regard to freshwater. On the national level action is identified in developing, maintaining and protecting: *"..watershed areas, irrigation systems, distribution networks and appropriate catchment systems and promoting effective programmes for water conservation and contamination.."* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:V.A.i). On the international level access should be improved to: *"..environmentally sound and energy effective technologies for the catchment, production, conservation and delivery of freshwater.."* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:V.C.i). In the Lomé Convention the attention for improved water schemes is directed towards irrigation through inter alia different types of water schemes ensuring optimum use and thrifty management of water, which can be mastered by farmers and local communities. Technical co-operation is to be carried out to exchange information between the Community and the ACP States and among the ACP states themselves on among others water use (ACP-EU, 1995:art.44 and 48).

For countries of the ACP-group that know problems of drought and desertification, policy to control these problems is required that encourages: **"the restoration of the natural environment and of the balance between resources and the human and animal population, in particular through such means as improved harnessing and management of water resources"** and, among others, reforestation (ACP-EU, 1995:art. 55). Research backing could be provided if necessary in: **"..making an inventory of water-tables and of their replenishment capacity with a view to better predictability of water supplies through a better management of surface and ground water.."** (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 57). One of the instruments mentioned in the Lomé Convention is the: **"use of dams and or other appropriate developments for the purpose of satisfying the needs of people and animals"** (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 57).

VI Land Resources

The use of land and the tensions that exist between different purposes for land use receive extensive attention in the Barbados Programme of Action since the availability of land in small island developing countries is limited. The Lomé Convention does not treat this subject as such, but issues like agriculture, mining, food production, tourism and forestry are relevant for land use planning and part of the Convention. These issues are treated separately though and an integrated approach towards the use of the land is not in so many words present in the Convention text. The co-operation in the agricultural and rural sector (which is arable farming, livestock production, fisheries and forestry) shall be aimed at: **"continuously and systematically promoting viable and sustainable development based in particular on protection of the environment and the rational management of natural resources"** (ACP-EU, 1995: art.42). Despite this objective, the Convention text is mainly focused on increasing agricultural production and its technical and marketing aspects. There are no special provisions for small island developing states in the Lomé Convention, where the Barbados Programme of Action identifies the issue of land use especially acute for small island countries because of their limited land resource.

The Barbados Programme of Action focuses on sustainable use of the land. In order to do this, it is necessary to have good national databases and information that should be disseminated to all relevant groups. Carrying capacity, economic and environmental value of land resources, and decision making tools such as land and geographic information systems are important in this respect. International action is required to facilitate this. Land use plans have to be prepared and reviewed, appropriate forms of land tenure encouraged, sustainable afforestation and reforestation programmes supported, and the availability, affordability and environmental quality of shelter have to be improved. The attention to national physical planning should be increased, focusing on training for the strengthening of physical planning offices, including the use of environmental impact assessments and other decision making tools. The Lomé Convention pays attention to reforestation and afforestation in the protocol on sustainable management of forest resources (ACP-EU, 1995: Protocol 10). The other aspects are not specifically mentioned in the Convention.

The Barbados Programme of Action sees a role on the international level in facilitating: *"..more effective international and interregional co-operation, co-ordination, collaboration and technical changes in the fields of agriculture, forestry and other land use through international and interregional networks and training programmes.."* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:VI.C.iii). In the Lomé Convention some attention for this is included in the article on the provision of technical co-operation in the field of agriculture (ACP-EU, 1995:art.48.1).

VII Energy Resources

Both documents, the Barbados Programme of Action and the Lomé Convention, pay a lot of attention to the issue of energy. Both texts devote a separate chapter or title to the issue. Both papers identify the dependence on fuels and biomass for energy and its inefficient use as a concern for the countries. In the Barbados Programme of Action action is called for promoting: "*the efficient use of energy and the development of environmentally sound sources of energy and energy efficient technologies, paying special attention to the possibilities of using, where appropriate, economic instruments and incentive structures and increasing economic possibilities of renewable sources of energy*" (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: art. VII.A.ii). The ACP-EU co-operation is to focus mainly on the same actions: "**particular emphasis shall be placed on energy programming, operations for saving and making efficient use of energy, reconnaissance of energy potential and the economically and technically appropriate promotion of new and renewable sources of energy**" (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 105).

Gathering and disseminating of information and promotion of regional co-operation and technical exchanges between small island developing states on energy-sector issues is one of the actions mentioned in the Barbados Programme of Action. This joins to the EU-ACP co-operation focus of encouraging co-operation between ACP States in the energy sector. The extension of electricity distribution grids between ACP countries and co-operation between those States and other neighbouring states receiving Community Aid are mentioned here (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 107.i).

From the international side, support for: "*..research, development and utilisation of renewable sources of energy and related technologies and improve the efficiency of existing technologies and end-use equipment based on conventional energy resources..*" is needed (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: VII.C.i). In the Lomé Convention co-operation in this research field is envisaged by promoting research of appropriate technology and stepping up the ACP research activities such as in the field of renewable resources (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 107. f, g.). The dissemination of appropriate technology is also mentioned in both documents. Both stress as well the importance of dissemination of information on the use of new and renewable sources of energy and the more efficient use of non-renewable energy resources (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 107.a; Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: VII.C.3).

The need for international institutions and agencies to incorporate environmental efficiency and conservation principles in energy-sector -related projects, training and technical assistance is partly met in the article in the Lomé Convention in which is stated that the energy implications of development projects and programming will be analysed (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 107.c). Rural electrification, an area where small scale application of renewable energy has been sporadic until now, is one of the fields the Lomé Convention pays particular attention to in the upgrading of basic infrastructure for energy production, transmission, transport and distribution (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 107.h).

Activities in the field of public awareness raising on energy consumption and activities in formulating and ratifying international conventions, are part of the Barbados Programme of Action, but not present in the Lomé Convention.

VIII Tourism

Tourism receives special attention in the Barbados Programme of Action as well as in the Lomé Convention. The aim in the co-operation between the ACP and the EU is: **"...to derive maximum benefit from national, regional and international tourism in view of tourism's impact on economic development and to stimulate private financial flows from the Community and other sources into the development of tourism in ACP States"** (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 121). In the Barbados Programme of Action, tourism is identified as one of the important development options for small island developing states, if it is properly planned and managed.

The Barbados Programme of Action stresses the importance of planning, to ensure sustainable tourism development with attention for land-use planning, monitoring of the environmental impact and energy and water consumption. At the international level this should be facilitated. The Lomé Convention provides the possibility to ensure adequate planning and development of tourism activities by professional management development and continuous training (ACP-EU, 1995: art.122a). The cultural, and environmental aspects of tourism, so highly stressed in the Barbados Programme of Action, receive specific attention in the Lomé Convention, since under product development are mentioned: **"identification of the tourism product, development of non-traditional and new tourism products, adaptation of existing products including the preservation and development of cultural heritage, ecological and environmental aspects, management, protection and conservation of flora and fauna, historical social and other assets, development of ancillary services"** (ACP-EU, 1995: art.122b). The development of non-traditional and new tourism products, joins with the Barbados Programme of Action which calls for the identification and development of facilities to meet specific niche markets (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: VIII.A.iii).

The Barbados Programme of Action identifies international action to assess at the national and regional levels: *"...the overall impact of the economic, social and ecological aspects of tourism..."* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:VIII.C.2). In the co-operation between the ACP and EU assessment of the socio-economic impact of tourism on the economies of ACP States is an area for research and information. Particular emphasis will be: **"...on the development of linkages to other sectors such as food production, construction, technology and management..."** (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 122d). Intra-ACP co-operation and exchanges in the fields of training, technical assistance and the development of institutions, which are mentioned in the Convention text, corresponds with the need for regional action in exchanging information, *"using as appropriate the capacities of regional tourism organisations"*, which is part of Barbados Programme of Action(Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: VIII.B.iii).

In short, both texts have eye for tourism, but the accent differs. The Barbados Programme of Action puts more emphasis on eco-tourism and environmental aspects, where the Lomé Convention elaborates more on market development and investments and does not pay specific attention to small island states.

IX Biodiversity Resources

The Barbados Programme of Action devotes a separate chapter to the issue of biodiversity, since the biodiversity base in small island developing states is due to the small size, isolation and fragility of island ecosystems among the most threatened in the world. In the Lomé Convention biodiversity is not treated as extensive as in the Barbados Programme of Action. In a few chapters the word is mentioned though. In a general way, the issue of biodiversity falls under the articles which deal with the environment and the Convention sees the efforts to halt deterioration of the environment and to conserve natural resources as imperative (ACP-EU, 1995: art.34). Biodiversity is further mentioned in protocol 10 on sustainable management of forest resources. The development of forests should be in conformity with, among other conventions, the convention on biodiversity. The efforts of the community shall be concentrated on actions promoting: "**..conservation of endangered tropical forests and their biodiversity**" (ACP-EU, 1995: prot. 10.3a).

The Barbados Programme of Action calls for conservation of areas that are of special importance for biodiversity. As far as these areas are situated in forests, protocol 10 of the Convention provides the possibility for: "**the development and implementation of action plans at local, national and regional level to improve the management, conservation and sustainable development of forests..**" (ACP-EU, 1995: prot. 10.3f). Access to and transfer of technology are also included in protocol 10 (ACP-EU, 1995: prot. 10. 4f).

While the Barbados Programme of Action stresses that for small island developing countries, the conservation focus should for a large part be on marine areas, the biodiversity issue is not mentioned in the title of the Convention that deals mostly with the marine resources: the one on fisheries.

X National Institutions and Administrative Capacity

In order to address environmental resource management, the national institutions and administrative capacity in the field of environmental issues should be strengthened and environmental considerations should be integrated into the national decision-making process. The Barbados Programme of Action elaborates these needs into ten points of action, policies and measures on the national level of small island developing states, which aim at this better integration. At the international level, access to financial and technical assistance should be improved to strengthen national institutions and administrative and operational capacity, an information network should be supported and the exchange of experience, training and capacity building should take place in order to facilitate ratification and implementation of appropriate international instruments. Closer co-operation to improve national and international measures to combat illicit drug trafficking and money laundering are also mentioned in this chapter (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: IX.C).

Support for national institutions and administrative capacity is not mentioned under the title in the Convention on the environment and is also not a separate area of attention in the text. There are throughout the Convention text general provisions made however, that do cover operations which are called for in the Barbados Programme of Action even though they are not specifically directed to small island developing countries or the environment. Examples of these are training and education (art. 151 of the Convention), and co-operation in the area of information and communications (art 149). Another example is the possibility in the Lomé Convention for co-operation in **strengthening "a network of relations among individual countries or groups of countries which have common characteristics, affinities and problems in order to solve such problems"**, under which the development of a sustainable development information network for small island countries as mentioned in the Barbados Programme of Action could be thought of (ACP-EU, 1995: art.158f).

The call of the Barbados Programme of Action to promote on an international level closer co-operation to improve national and international measures to combat illicit drug trafficking is also mentioned as an area of co-operation in the Lomé Convention in the articles on regional co-operation (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 159f).

XI Regional Institutions and Technical Co-operation

Because of small size and limited human resources of the small island developing states, regional co-operation and institutions have to play an important role in the sustainable development of the countries. This is why it receives extensive attention in the Barbados Programme of Action. Among the intended regional activities are: formulating regional programmes and strategies consistent with Agenda 21, development of a small island developing states technical assistance programme, establishment of regional sustainable development centres and facilitating research and technology transfer (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XI).

In the Lomé Convention, regional co-operation receives a lot of attention as well, with special attention to small island countries: **"with a view to encouraging regional co-operation between the least-developed, landlocked and island countries, particular attention shall be paid to these countries' specific problems at the regional programming stage and in the implementation"**.. while special attention shall be paid to the landlocked and island ACP states in order to overcome the obstacles holding back their development" (ACP-EU, 1995: art.165).

Within the scope of regional co-operation in the Convention falls: **"preservation and improvement of the environment. Especially through programmes to combat desertification, erosion, deforestation, coastal deterioration, the consequences of large scale marine pollution, including large accidental discharge of petroleum or other pollutants with a view to ensuring rational and ecologically balanced development"** (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 159d).

Particular attention in regional co-operation in the Lomé Convention, and which are also areas of attention in the Barbados Programme of Action, shall be paid to: maximalisation of the use of human resources (art. 158b), promotion of scientific and technical co-operation, strengthening of a network of relations among individual countries which share the same problems (158f), and making the fullest use of economies of scale wherever a regional solution is more efficient than a national solution (158g). Regional organisations which are duly mandated by the ACP states, will play an important part in the design and implementation of regional programmes in the Lomé Convention (EU-ACP, 1995: art. 161 and Barbados Programme of Action: XI.C.ii). The Barbados Programme of Action pleads for strengthening of these organisations.

XII Transport and Communication

Transport and communication is essential for small island developing states, especially the archipelagic ones, but at the same time is it very costly for these countries. The Barbados Programme of Action sees it as a challenge to devise innovative approaches to resolving transport and communication problems and improving management and maintenance of existing transport and communication infrastructure. The Barbados Programme of Action puts much emphasis on low-cost, high-tech and energy effective methods for transport and on improving access to telephone, radio and related services, especially in rural and outer island communities (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: XII).

These aspects receive specific attention in the Lomé Convention as well. Co-operation between the EU and the ACP has the aim to develop, among others, road transport, port installations and shipping, transport by domestic waterways, air transport, and telecommunications. One of the objectives is to provide, rehabilitate and maintain: **"..cost-effective systems serving the requirements of social and economic development and adjusted to the needs of users and to the overall economic States concerned"**, an aspect that is stressed in the Barbados Programme of Action as well (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 123). Particular importance is to be attached to telecommunications in rural areas (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 132.2).

The need for international action identified in the Barbados Programme of Action in promoting research and development in telecommunications and transport, can be found in the Lomé Convention for telecommunications (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 132). Support to: *"..regional organisations which are to co-ordinate and advise small island developing states in the fields of transport and communications"* is another point for international action in the Barbados Programme of Action (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: XII.C.iii). These fields are also included in the articles on regional co-operation in the Lomé Convention and can be implemented by regional organisations (ACP-EU, 1995: art. 159g).

XIII Science and Technology

The Barbados Programme of Action pays special attention to science and technology since in small island developing states the capacity for science and technology remains underdeveloped in terms of research and development institutions and of the availability of scientists. Information on environmentally sound technologies relevant to economic development, the ability to assess them and trained people are essential for the countries. Science and technology receive special attention in the Lomé Convention as well. It is stated in a more general way, stressing less environmental issues and marine science than the Barbados Programme of Action does. One of the aims of the co-operation between the Community and the ACP is: **"to provide support for the ACP States' efforts to acquire their own scientific and technical skills, master the technology they require for their development and participate actively in modern scientific, environmental and technological developments"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.152.1a).

The Barbados Programme of Action sees on the national level the need to: *"..promote research and development in areas where endogenous technologies and traditional practices have great relevance"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XIII.A.iii). This coincides with one priority area that is mentioned in the Lomé Convention, which is: **"the promotion of local technology, and the selection of imported technology and its adaptation to the specific needs of the ACP States"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.152.3c).

International action is required according to the Barbados Programme of Action, to *"strengthen co-ordination and networking of the national centres, regional organisations and institutions, and international organisations working in the areas of science and technology to facilitate information flows, database creation and access and greater collaboration and technical co-operation in programmes"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XIII.C.ii). The Lomé Convention gives a priority to improving: **"scientific and technical information and documentation to ensure better dissemination of research trends and findings, through networks at national, subregional, regional and inter-regional levels and between ACP States and the Community"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.152.3d).

XIV Human Resource Development

Several aspects of Human Resource Development are addressed in the Barbados Programme of Action: improving access to education and emphasising in training and education the link between environment and social and economic issues, population issues, health, improvement of settlements and provision of basic services, strengthening the role of major groups (NGOs, women's organisations), improving quality of education and training, and encouraging the use of local knowledge and skills. Action at all three levels, national, regional and international is to address these aspects (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XIV).

In the Lomé Convention many of these issues are included in the areas of co-operation between the ACP and the EU. They are present throughout the Convention text, even though not specifically linked to sustainable development and the environment as much as the Barbados Programme of Action does. The need for education and training on protection of the environment and natural resources is recognised in article 36 of the Convention in which it is stated that: **"attention shall be given to incorporating suitable educational, training and information and research schemes in projects and programmes"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art.36).

The education and training aspect is treated in a separate subheading and deals with the improvement of training and education to meet the needs of the ACP States. The setting up and expansion of training and education establishments, particularly those of a regional nature, is one of the areas of co-operation (ACP-EU, 1995:art.151.5a). Regional co-operation in educational and human resources development is also one of the actions mentioned in the Barbados Programme of Action (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: XIV.B.iii). At the national level, action is required to *"improve the quality of education, training and human resources development by upgrading basic education and technical/vocational skills and by making improvements where necessary to national management and planning capacities and labour market linkages"* (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: XIV.A.vii). The co-operation between the ACP and EU foresees also support in primary education, literacy programmes and non-traditional training such as vocational training (ACP-EU, 1995:art.151). Curriculum development and reform of methods receive attention in the Lomé Convention as well as in the Barbados Programme of Action, but in the Barbados Programme of Action it has the aim of developing sustainable development curricula and programmes on environmental education, while in the Lomé Convention this is not specified.

In the area of population issues, the Barbados Programme of Action asks for more attention for these issues in the mainstream of decision-making and planning and this is to be consistent with sustainable development objectives. On the international side appropriate resources are asked to meet the particular concerns of small island developing states (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XIV.A.ii and C.ii). The co-operation between the ACP and EU is aimed at **"ensuring a better overall balance in the ACP States between population, the protection of the environment and natural resources and the production of economic resources and social goods"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art155.1a). Several measures are envisaged in the article, such as the creation of statistical and demographic services to collect data for the formulation of policies, preparation, implementation and evaluation of

demographic projects, training of personnel to implement population policies, etc.

The Barbados Programme of Action identifies the need on the international level to: "*support basic regional and national formal and informal health training and research on technology and health problems of small island developing states*" (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994: XIV:art.vii). The importance of the health sector to ensure sustainable and self-reliant development is recognised in the Lomé Convention and the strengthening of the health sector is mainly to be done by the support of health services, health planning, training and information programmes (ACP-EU, 1995:art.154). The area of research which is stressed by the Barbados Programme of Action, is mentioned in the Convention text too: **"the building-up of research institutes, university departments and specialist schools in ACP Countries, notably in the field of public health"** (ACP-EU, 1995:art. 154.3).

In the Barbados Programme of Action support programmes are identified as a need to: "*increasing the involvement of community-based organisations in conservation and natural resource management programmes, including planning and decision making*" (Barbados Programme of Action, 1994:XIV.C.x). The Lomé Convention recognises the important role of such organisations in the development of the ACP States and aims through decentralised co-operation to involve the 'decentralised agents' (decentralised public authorities, rural and village groups, co-operatives, trade unions, NGOs etc) in developing operations. Their activities shall be supported, with the consent of the ACP government. Another possibility in the Lomé Convention to involve the community-based organisations is through micro-projects. These projects have to be requested by the ACP States (ACP-EU, 1995:art.251-253).

Conclusions

The preceding paragraphs show that many priority areas in the Barbados Programme of Action are already present in the current Lomé Convention. This is especially true for the areas of energy, regional institutions and co-operation, tourism, and science and technology. Areas that are most visibly lacking in the Convention and which are of great importance to small island developing states, are integrated coastal management and an integrated approach on land use. In general the Barbados Programme of Action stresses more the environmental aspects of development than the Lomé Convention. Consideration of environmental impacts is mentioned in the objectives, however, in most areas of co-operation in the Convention. There are also some areas in the Convention which are not dealt with in the Barbados Programme of Action, such as industrial development and enterprise development. The issue of trade is lacking in the main areas of the Barbados Programme of Action, but it receives attention in the chapter on the implementation of the programme.

Whereas the Convention pays special attention to island countries, the articles in which this attention is included, are not much elaborated. If there is a wish of both contracting parties to better address the specific circumstances of the different regions of the ACP in the future co-operation, a fuller integration of the Barbados Programme of Action into the co-operation could form a meaningful contribution. The translation of relevant areas for the small island developing countries into concrete action on the national, regional and international level has already taken place.