



## **CROSQ CARICOM REGIONAL ORGANISATION FOR STANDARDS AND QUALITY**

"The Heritage" 35 Pine Road Belleville St. Michael Barbados  
Office Tel:(246) 437-8146 Fax: (246) 437-4569  
Office Email: [crosq.caricom@crosq.org](mailto:crosq.caricom@crosq.org)  
Website Address: [www.crosq.org](http://www.crosq.org)

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Sr. Manuel Díaz Portocarrero  
Secretario Ejecutivo de COPANT  
COPANT Executive Secretary

Sir

With respect to your request for: **Report on CROSQ's recent activities**, the following is submitted for your kind attention:

- **HUMAN RESOURCE:** - CROSQ's first Executive Secretary Mrs C Rhone demitted office in October 2006 and was replaced by Mr Kenneth Mullin in November 2006. The posts of Information Specialist and Technical Officer were filled in 2006.
- **STANDARDS:** - CROSQ continued its work with respect to the development of Regional Standards for CARICOM. Standards in the areas of Labelling (Goods, Food, Cigarettes & Tobacco Products, Aerosol Insecticides), Chemicals (Detergents, Disinfectants, Paints), Construction Materials (Cement, Steel Nails, AluZinc Roofing Sheets, Carbon Steel Bars), Petroleum Products (Diesel, Gasoline, LPG), Food (Poultry Products, Ketchup, Canned Sausages, Coconut Oil, Table Eggs, among others) and Beverages (Rum, Brewery Products, Fruit and Vegetable Juices, Packaged water, Packaged Coconut Water) were progressed.
- **PROJECTS :** - CROSQ has embarked on Regional Projects as follows:

### **“Promoting Small And Medium Enterprise Competitiveness In The Caribbean Through Technical Standards”**

**(RG-M1022):** - This project's main objective is to boost the competitiveness of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in order to facilitate the export of goods and services and the process of integration in the region, the hemisphere and the world. The project will use the funds to build on the existing infrastructure of regional standardization to improve the competitiveness of SMEs in the CARICOM region. This project will underscore and build awareness of the importance of standardization and conformity assessment to SMEs among interested regional stakeholders. In addition, another project, **“Harmonized Regional Quality Infrastructure for Improving Market Access and Competitiveness (ATN/MT-9833-RG)”** got underway in 2007. PTB is involved in this project. Both Projects will roll out simultaneously. Details on these are available from the CROSQ Website [www.crosq.org](http://www.crosq.org)

A further Project, **“Preparation of Regional Building Standards in the Caribbean”** has been embarked upon: (CROSQ) received a Technical Assistance Grant from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to assist in financing the cost of developing **Regional Building Standards (RBS) in the Caribbean**. The activities involved for this Project include a review of the base codes, preparation of Caribbean

Application Documents (CAD), training of potential users, strengthening of building control agencies and consensus building activities among key stakeholders.

- CROSQ participated in activities of the Caribbean Export Development Agency (CEDA), CAREC, CTO, CHA, Caribbean Laboratory Accreditation Scheme, CDERA, CAST and CRFM.

These activities are undertaken in keeping with the mandate of CROSQ as outlined in the following Statement:-

CROSQ's mission is to develop, harmonize and promote CARICOM standards and standards - related activities to facilitate regional trade, international competitiveness and the sustainable production of goods and services within the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), for the enhancement of regional development.

Please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned for any further information required.

Thank you,

Mr. Kenneth Mullin  
Executive Secretary  
CROSQ