



7TH CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS SUMMIT & MEETING OF MEMBERS

JAN 10TH - 15TH, SCARBOROUGH TOBAGO

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REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE



THIS REPORT DETAILS THE REPRESENTATION AND PARTICIPATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION (CSA) AT THE CARIBBEAN REGIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL (CRYC) MEETING OF MEMBERS (MOM) HELD JANUARY 10TH -11TH 2023 AND THE 7TH CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT (CYLS) HELD JANUARY 12TH-15TH 2023 IN SCARBOROUGH, TOBAGO.

MEETING OF MEMBERS

The Caribbean Regional Youth Council, the Tobago Youth Council and the Trinidad Youth Council convened the Caribbean Regional Youth Council Meeting of Members (MOM) on Tuesday 10th January and Wednesday 11th January 2023 in Tobago.

The overall objective of the meeting was to provide an opportunity for the Caribbean Regional Youth Council to convene the Council's General Assembly (GA) to address critical matters as it relates to Constitutional review and ratification, membership audit, institutional strengthening, strategic planning, and capacity building. It also provided an opportunity for key stakeholders within the Caribbean Region to meet and determine key priority areas as well as to ensure strategic alignment post CHOGM Commonwealth Youth Forum and prior to the upcoming Commonwealth Youth Ministers Meeting (CYMM).

The Commonwealth Students' Association, represented by the Caribbean and Americas Regional Representative, Ms. Alicia Ramdal, attended the MOM as an Associate Member of the Caribbean Regional Youth Council.



MEETING OF MEMBERS

METHODOLOGY

The workshop was conducted over a two-day period and was highly participatory, with a combination of workshops, focused group sessions, technical presentations by specialists/experts, group discussions and team building exercises. The specific activities are shown below.

DAY ONE

TUESDAY 10TH JANUARY 2023

- Delegate Registration
- Introductions
- Ice Breaker Session
- Session 1: Understanding CRYC Historical Context
- NYC Consultation
- Team Building Session
- Strategic Planning Session
- Closing Debrief / Reflection and daily wrap.
- Team Building Social.

DAY TWO

TUESDAY 11TH JANUARY 2023

- Delegate Registration
- Opening Briefing
- Constitutional Review
- Panel Discussion with NYC's
- Capacity Building: Funding and Sponsorship
- Capacity Building: Marketing and Communications
- Strategic Planning Session
- Closing Debrief/ Reflection & daily wrap.

MEETING OF MEMBERS

Benefit gained from CSA's Participation

The CRYC Meeting of Members provided a valuable opportunity for connections to be built between the heads of National Youth Councils (NYCs) throughout the Caribbean Region. This event was particularly useful as it is the first gathering of its kind since the newly elected CSA Executive took office in October 2022. Although the CYLS was not a student governance focused event, there tends to be much overlap of NYCs and National Students' Organisations (NSOs) within the region. As such, several potential partnerships between the CSA and members of existing and potential Caribbean NSU's and NSO's were discussed with a focus on the development and capacity building of these organisations, which is a primary mandate of the CSA.





SUMMIT DAY ONE

CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT

DAY ONE - Thursday 12th January 2023

On day one of the Summit the CSA Caribbean & Americas Representative participated as a panelist in Plenary Session 1 which was an Intergenerational Dialogue entitled "Taking Charge of Our Future" with specific focus on the role of youth in building sustainable communities. This discussion represented well the CSA's commonly used #BuildingOurFutureTogether. CSA contributed from the standpoint of youth taking charge of their own education and learning, the removal of barriers to accessing learning opportunities and funding for both formal and non-formal education.





SUMMIT DAY TWO

CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT

DAY TWO – Sunday 15th January 2023

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CSA Side Event in Partnership with CSU

The CSA would have made a request to the CRYC Chairman for permission to host a side event in partnership with the Caribbean Students' Union (CSU) which was favourably met. The session was hosted by Ms. Alicia Ramdal representing the CSA and Mr. Everton Rattray, CSU Coordinator. The session took the format of a thirty (30) minute presentation and was primarily an information and awareness session targeting focused on the existing state of student governance within the Caribbean, including countries which currently have active NSUs/NSOs and the objectives which is hoped to be achieved through partnership between the CSA and CSU. The session concluded with a call for interested youth and student leaders, especially those from countries without NSOs, to join both organisations in establishing and strengthening regional NSUs/NSOs. A recording of the session can be found on the CRYC Facebook page where it was live streamed.





CSU
Caribbean Students' Union

CSA
commonwealth
students
association

- Objectives
- What is the CSA?
- Our Vision for National Student Organisations
- What is the CSU and what currently exists for the organization.
- Plans for the future - Caribbean Student Leadership Conference.
- Connect with us!





SUMMIT DAY THREE

CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT

DAY THREE- Sunday 15th January 2023

Courtesy Call with Minister of Youth Development and Sport – Saint Lucia

The CSA Caribbean & Americas Representative met independently with the Minister of Youth Development and Sport for Saint Lucia, Honourable Kenson Casimir, where they discussed the work that the CSA is doing as it relates to Student Governance in the Caribbean region, and explored possible avenues through which the Saint Lucian Youth Ministry can assist in fostering the development of student governance throughout the region, including potential funding mechanisms and the hosting of student governance focused workshops/sessions in St. Lucia. Special emphasis was placed on the need for a shift in focus to non-formal education, vocational and soft-skills learning, which is a key objective of the CSA.



CARIBBEAN YOUTH LEADERS' SUMMIT

DAY THREE- Sunday 15th January 2023

Courtesy Call with UWISTAT Presidents

The CSA Caribbean & Americas Representative met with the President of the University of the West Indies Students Today Alumni Tomorrow (UWISTAT) Cavehill (Barbados), Mr. Rahym Augsutin-Joseph and President of UWISTAT Mona (Jamaica), Ms. Shanique Campbell to discuss possible areas of collaboration with the CSA with an aim to strengthening the UWISTAT's capacity to represent the interest of students through capacity building sessions, expansion of opportunities for increased student governance participation and professionalising of student governance. Also discussed were ways in which both organisations' governance framework could be amplified to ensure sustainability. These discussions are intended to be formalised via a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in the coming days.



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DAY THREE- Sunday 15th January 2023

Facilitation of Youth Action Lab on SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Social Institutions

The CSA Caribbean & Americas Representative contributed substantively to the CYLS by conducting one of four Youth Actions Labs (YALs). YALs were solution creation-centered breakouts with each breakout group representing a plenary theme. This particular YAL focused on SDG16 – Peace, Justice and Strong Social Institutions. Facilitators guided the structure of discussions among the summit attendees in four stages:

1. Identification – Identifying and analysing gaps based on the plenary topic on national and regional levels.
2. Solutioning – Proposing solutions to the identified issues.
3. Partnerships & Collaboration – Identifying appropriate stakeholders and methods of stakeholder engagement.
4. Resources – Discussing effective means of gathering resources in order to actualize the proposed solutions.



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