



Sociaal Economische Raad  
Social Economic Council

SER Sint Maarten at AICESIS regional conference in Willemstad, Curaçao.

## REPORT

A delegation of the Sint Maarten Social Economic Council (SER) attended the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) board meeting in Willemstad, Curaçao on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2014.

The SER Sint Maarten delegation consisted of:

- Chairlady, Oldine Bryson-Pantophlet
- Vice-Chairman, Dwight Williams
- Secretary-General, Gerard Richardson

The program of the visit:

### **Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2014**

08:00 Registration

09:00 Opening Session

09:30 Keynote Address

10:30 Family Picture

11:00 First Working Session

12:30 Lunch

14:00 Second Working Session

15:30 Coffee Break

16:00 Third Working Session

19:00 Latin and Caribbean Night



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### **Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2014**

- 09:00 Wrap up Discussion of day 1
- 09:30 Fourth Working Session
- 11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:30 Fifth and Last Working Session
- 12:30 Closure
- 13:00 Lunch

### **Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2014**

- 09:45 Departure to Sint Maarten

## **1. Written Account of the board meeting**

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> & Friday 26<sup>th</sup> of September 2014**

The ILO presented at an international Conference on "Economic growth by strengthening human capital and industrial performance", which was held on 25 to 26 September 2014 in Willemstad, Curacao.

The Conference was hosted by the International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (AICESIS) in collaboration with the Sociaal-Economische Raad (Social Economic Council) (SER)), Curacao.

AICESIS is a worldwide organization, comprising institutions from 71 African,

Latin American, Asian and European countries. AICESIS, which functions as an important international organization for social and economic policy, is an association under Dutch law with headquarters in Brussels, Belgium.





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SER Curacao (former SER Netherlands Antilles, 1966-2010) is a Government Institution, established by a National Ordinance and is entitled to advise the Government and Parliament concerning all important economic and social matters and issues.

Acting Chairman of the SER Curacao, Mr. John Jacobs, welcomed all the representatives of the AICESIS from Latin America and the Caribbean, to discuss issues of common interest and solutions for economic growth and the strengthening of human capital and industrial performance in the region. Representatives from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and several member States gave lectures on economic growth and human capital. Various Social and Economic Councils of Latin America and the Caribbean shared their best practices. Most of the presenters sought to exchange information on solutions to human capital and real economic growth in Curacao, and the rest of the region.

Mr. Kelvin Sergeant, ILO Specialist for Sustainable Enterprise Development and Job Creation, delivered a presentation on "Economic growth through investment in human capital and technology — Views from the ILO". The presentation underscored the role of sustained growth in job creation and also focused on increased productivity and technology for sustained growth. It touched on issues ranging from innovation to vocational training, formal education, on-the-job-training, TVET, skills development, and the participation of social partners in the process of human capital development.

Other issues raised during the Conference included inter alia; the role of the private sector and the conditions conducive for enterprise growth and development, the role of SER in formalizing the informal economy, social dialogue, and social innovation in the process of economic growth. At the end of the Conference, the organizers agreed to discuss the possibility of a partnership framework with the ILO so that the ILO's tools and skills can be made available to contribute to capacity development and skills training, in the development of human capital in Curacao.

**END**