GROUP III

Bahamas  Cayman Islands
Dominica  Grenada
St Lucia  St Vincent & the Grenadines
Suriname  CTO
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- Data compilers do not have a (comprehensive) business register. Long before a TSA can be done, a business register is needed so the compiler can know what he/she is dealing with.

- Develop a business register, so stock can be taken of the establishments in various industries.
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- Questionnaire / sampling design
  - How to deal with non-response to various questions and the entire questionnaire
  - Does questionnaire effectively capture info needed to measure international tourism expenditure?
  - Sampling issues – when to do survey? which tourists to survey? Interviewers not trained.

- Build technical capacity
  - Excellent info from this workshop!
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- Lack of collaboration amongst stakeholders
  - Many agencies involved in the measurement process
  - These agencies have different definitions (Immigration vs. Tourism Boards), timelines etc

- Coordinate a Technical Advisory Committee of all stakeholders in the compilation process
  - Immigration Dept, Ministry of Tourism, Tourism Authority/Board, CSO
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- Human resource constraints hamper the processing of data.
- Possibly a Consultant who can get the process going AND do knowledge transfer to data compilers in local CSOs.
- Continued training for data compilers.
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- $$$
  - Lack of $$$ limit frequency of exit surveys and quality of surveyor
  - $$$ allocated to marketing ; little to data compilation
  - Need to assess impact of fiscal decisions

- Governments to buy into the need for effective data, and provide more funding.
  - Tourism Ministers, Directors of Statistics
  - Chicken–and–egg situation?
Main Obstacles / Recommendations to the measurement of Travel and International Tourism Expenditure?

- **Definition of travel**
  - Tourism Boards apply the six-month not “one year” rule.
  - Immigration rule?
  - E/D cards: students may write just one semester instead of, say, 2 years

- Implement common definition for “Travel” and “Tourism”. CARICOM, CTO, UNWTO coordinate?
- Members to move to current international recommended measures – ISIC Rev IV, BPM6, GDP by expenditure, up-to-date SUT, TSA, current expenditure survey.
Members’ expectation of international organisations is for technical and financial assistance to develop robust statistics.

The organisations should also play a coordinating role to ensure that the process is harmonised throughout region.

- Too many projects being implemented simultaneously (SNA 2008, ICP, GDP by expenditure)

Next Steps for members:

- Establish / activate Advisory Committee
- MoU amongst relevant agencies