

Ms. Tricia A. Lovell (Antigua and Barbuda)
2007-2008 United Nations – The Nippon Foundation of Japan Fellow



Bio-Sketch

Tricia is a Fisheries Officer by profession and has been employed in the Fisheries Division of Antigua since 1998. She obtained her Bachelors degree in Mathematics (First Class Honours) from the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus; Barbados in 1997 before going on to pursue a Masters of Marine Management from Dalhousie University, Canada in 2001-2002. Other relevant training includes the International Ocean Institute (IOI) Training Program on the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and Agenda 21, which she attended in the summer of 2000. Tricia has represented her Government at a number of international meetings including the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) meetings held in 2004 and 2007. She also participated in the CITES endorsed V Masters Course on CITES, sponsored by the International University of Andalusia, Spain in 2005 for which her thesis focused on the Significant Trade Review of Caribbean Queen Conch (*Strombus gigas*).

Fellowship Host Institutions and Supervisors

1. Environmental, Coastal and Ocean Sciences Graduate Department; University of Massachusetts – Boston (Dr. John Duff)
2. The Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (Dr. François Baitel)

Research Abstract

Regionalism Versus National Sovereignty: The Promise and Problems of a CARICOM Fisheries Agreement

In February, 2003, the fifteen member governments of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) endorsed a proposal submitted by the government of Barbados on “The Imperative of Elaborating a Common Fisheries Regime” for the CARICOM Region. In its presentation of the proposal Barbados argued that the “principles being advocated...within the CARICOM Single Market and Economy...should also include the marine space of countries”. With this began a three year negotiation process aimed at outlining the framework for the Common Fisheries Policy and Regime for the CARICOM region.

Although a final agreement is yet to be reached on the content of the CARICOM fisheries arrangement, in its current form, the agreement includes the provisions for the establishment of a Common Fisheries Zone, encompassing the Exclusive Economic Zone of Member governments beyond the limits of the territorial sea. This provision has met with much opposition and remains an issue of contention among many of the Member States.

This paper examines the promise and problems of entering into such an arrangement; taking into consideration the constraints member states face to effectively manage the extent of their EEZs owing to their small size and the reluctance by some to divulge sovereignty to a regional management agency. It analyses the draft regional agreement through a comparative analysis of other regional fisheries arrangements within the region and internationally.

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