

CHAPTER 140A

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS 1992-8

This Act came into operation on 2nd April, 1992.

Amended by:

2001-33

2002-6

2008-10

Law Revision Orders

The following Law Revision Order or Orders authorized the insertion and removal of pages as the case may be under the Law Revision Act Cap.2 now repealed:

1993

2008

Guide to symbols in historical notes:

- indicates an amendment made by an Act

/ indicates an amendment made by statutory instrument

CHAPTER 140A

MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS 1992-8

Arrangement of Sections

PART I

PRELIMINARY

1. Short title
2. Interpretation
3. Central authority for Barbados
4. Application of Act
5. Restrictions with respect to operation of Act

PART II

REQUESTS BY BARBADOS TO COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE

6. Assistance in obtaining evidence
7. Assistance in locating or identifying persons
8. Assistance in obtaining article or thing by search and seizure if necessary
9. Assistance in arranging attendance of person

10. Assistance by transferring prisoner
11. Assistance in serving documents
12. Restriction on use of evidence
13. Immunities and privileges
14. Assistance in tracing property
15. Assistance in relation to certain orders
16. Assistance in obtaining order in nature of restraining order

PART III

REQUESTS BY COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES TO BARBADOS FOR ASSISTANCE

17. Form of requests
18. Acceptance or refusal of requests
19. Assistance to country in obtaining evidence
20. Assistance to country in locating or identifying person
21. Assistance to country in obtaining article or thing by search and seizure if necessary
22. Assistance to country in arranging attendance of person
23. Assistance to country transferring prisoner
24. Assistance to country in serving documents

- 25. Assistance to country in tracing property
- 26. Assistance to country in relation to certain orders
- 27. Assistance to country in obtaining restraining order

PART IV

APPLICATION OF ACT TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN
COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

- 28. Definitions
- 29. Mutual assistance between Barbados and non-Commonwealth countries

PART IVA

APPLICATION OF THE CARIBBEAN TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL
ASSISTANCE IN SERIOUS CRIMINAL MATTERS

- 29A. Definitions
- 29B. Treaty to have the force of law
- 29C. Central Authority
- 29D. Application

PART V

MISCELLANEOUS

- 30. Certificates given by the Attorney-General
- 31. Authentication

- 32. Transit
- 33. Escaping
- 34. Arrest of person who has escaped from custody
- 35. Regulations

FIRST SCHEDULE

Request for Assistance made by Commonwealth Countries

SECOND SCHEDULE

*CARIBBEAN TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN SERIOUS
CRIMINAL MATTERS*

**BARBADOS****MUTUAL ASSISTANCE IN CRIMINAL MATTERS
1992-8**

An Act to make provision

- (a) *with respect to the scheme relating to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters within the Commonwealth and to facilitate its operation in Barbados;*
- (b) *for mutual assistance in criminal matters between Barbados and countries other than Commonwealth countries; and*
- (c) *for the implementation of the Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters.*

[Commencement: 2nd April, 1992]

PART I**PRELIMINARY****Short title**

- 1.** This Act may be cited as the *Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act*.

Interpretation

2.(1) In this Act,

“article” includes document;

“benefit” has the meaning assigned thereto in the *Proceeds of Crime Act*,
Cap. 143;

“central authority” means,

- (a) in relation to Barbados, the person or authority specified in or designated pursuant to section 3;
- (b) in relation to any Commonwealth country, the person or authority designated by that country for the purpose of transmitting and receiving requests under the scheme;

“Commonwealth country” means

- (a) a sovereign and independent country within the Commonwealth;
- (b) a dependent country within the Commonwealth;

“criminal matter”

(a) in Part II means

- (i) an investigation certified by the central authority for Barbados to have commenced; or
- (ii) proceedings so certified to be criminal proceedings which have been instituted,

in Barbados in respect of an offence committed, or suspected on reasonable grounds to have been committed, against the law of Barbados;

(b) in Part III, in relation to a Commonwealth country, means

- (i) an investigation certified by the central authority for that country to have commenced; or

- (ii) proceedings so certified to be criminal proceedings which have been instituted,

in the Commonwealth country in respect of an offence committed, or suspected on reasonable grounds to have been committed, against the law of that country; and

- (c) in Part II and Part III includes forfeiture proceedings, proceedings to restrain dealings with property, proceedings for the confiscation of property, and proceedings for the imposition of pecuniary penalties calculated by reference to the value of property or benefits arising out of criminal proceedings, whether such proceedings be characterised as criminal or civil proceedings;

“document” includes

- (a) anything on which there is writing;
- (b) a map, drawing or photograph;
- (c) a thing from which sounds or visual images are capable, with or without the aid of a device, of being reproduced;
- (d) a copy, reproduction or duplicate of a document as so defined; and
- (e) a part of a document as so defined;

“judicial records” means judgments, orders and decisions of courts, and other records held by judicial authorities;

“official records” means documents held by government departments or agencies or prosecution authorities;

“property” includes money and all other property, real or personal, immovable or movable, including things in action and other intangible or incorporeal property, whether situated in Barbados or elsewhere, and includes any interest in any such property;

“relevant proceedings” means proceedings under or pursuant to this or any other Act arising directly or indirectly from a request for assistance under this Act by a Commonwealth country;

“restraining order” means a restraining order made under the *Proceeds of Crime Act*, Cap. 143;

“scheme” means the Scheme Relating to Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters within the Commonwealth adopted by Commonwealth Law Ministers at their meeting in Harare in July to August 1986 and endorsed by the Commonwealth Heads of Government at their meeting in Vancouver in October, 1987;

“serious offence” means,

- (a) in relation to Barbados, an offence against the law of Barbados
 - (i) for which the sentence is fixed by law,
 - (ii) for which a person may, under or by virtue of any enactment, be sentenced to 5 or more years imprisonment,
 - (iii) the value of the property or benefits derived or obtained from the commission of which is, or is likely to be, not less than \$20 000 or such greater amount as may be prescribed; or
- (b) in relation to a Commonwealth country, an offence against the law of the country
 - (i) for which a sentence of death may be imposed,
 - (ii) for which a person may, under or by virtue of any enactment, be sentenced to 5 or more years imprisonment, or
 - (iii) the value of the property or benefits derived or obtained from the commission of which is certified by the central authority for the country to be, or to be likely to be, not less than such amount as is prescribed by or under the law of the country;

“transmitted”, in relation to a request, means,

- (a) in Part II, transmitted by the central authority for Barbados to the central authority for the Commonwealth country from which assistance is requested; or
- (b) in Part III, transmitted by the central authority for the Commonwealth country making a request for assistance to the central authority for Barbados.

(2) A reference in this Act to the law of a Commonwealth country includes a reference to the law of a part of, or the law in force in a part of, that country.

(3) For the purposes of this Act, a ship or aircraft of, or registered in, Barbados or a Commonwealth country shall be deemed to be part of Barbados or, as the case may be, the Commonwealth country.

(4) For the purposes of this Act, a person shall be deemed to have been charged with a serious offence in Barbados, or in a Commonwealth country, if any information or indictment has been laid or filed against the person for the offence, whether or not

- (a) a summons to require the attendance of the person to answer to the information or indictment; or
- (b) a warrant for the apprehension of the person

has been issued.

(5) Where, in Barbados or a Commonwealth country,

- (a) a person is convicted by a court of a serious offence; and
- (b) with his consent another serious offence, of which he has not been found guilty, is taken into account by the court in passing sentence for the offence referred to in paragraph (a),

the person shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to have been convicted by the court of the offence, so taken into account, on the date on which the sentence was so passed.

(6) A reference in this Act to property or benefits derived or obtained from the commission of an offence shall be deemed to include a reference to property used in, or in connection with, the commission of the offence.

Central authority for Barbados

3.(1) Subject to subsection (2), the Attorney-General shall be the central authority for Barbados.

(2) The Attorney-General may by order published in the *Gazette* designate any person or authority as the central authority for Barbados.

Application of Act

4.(1) Subject to subsection (2), this Act, other than Part IV and Part IVA, shall apply in relation to all Commonwealth countries.

(2) The Attorney-General may by order published in the *Gazette* direct that the application of this Act in relation to a particular Commonwealth country shall be subject to such conditions, exceptions or qualifications as are specified in the order; and in that event this Act shall apply accordingly.

(3) The Attorney-General may by order published in the *Gazette* amend or revoke an order made under this section.

[2008-10]

Restrictions with respect to operation of Act

5.(1) Nothing in this Act derogates from existing forms, or prevents the development of other forms, of co-operation (whether formal or informal) in respect of criminal matters between Barbados and any Commonwealth country, or between Barbados, or any enforcement agencies or prosecuting authorities in Barbados, and the International Criminal Police Organisation or any such agencies or authorities outside Barbados.

(2) Nothing in this Act authorises the extradition or the arrest or detention, with a view to extradition, of any person.

PART II

REQUESTS BY BARBADOS TO COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE

Assistance in obtaining evidence

6. Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that evidence or information relevant to a criminal matter may be obtained if, in a Commonwealth country,

- (a) evidence is taken from a person;
- (b) information is provided;
- (c) any
 - (i) person,
 - (ii) sample, specimen or other item from, or provided by a person, or
 - (iii) remains which are, or may be human,is or are subjected to any examination or test;
- (d) judicial records or official records are produced, copied or examined;
- (e) any record or article is produced, copied or examined;
- (f) samples of any matter or thing are taken, examined or tested; or
- (g) any building, place or thing is viewed or photographed,

a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the country in so obtaining the evidence or information.

Assistance in locating or identifying persons

7. Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person who

- (a) is or might be concerned in or affected by; or
- (b) could give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to,

any criminal matter, is in a Commonwealth country, a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the country in locating that person or, if his identity is unknown, in identifying and locating him.

Assistance in obtaining article or thing by search and seizure if necessary

8. Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that an article or thing is in a Commonwealth country and would, if produced, be relevant to any criminal matter, a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the country in obtaining, by search and seizure if necessary, the article or thing.

Assistance in arranging attendance of person

9. Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person in a Commonwealth country could give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to a criminal matter, a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the country in arranging the attendance of the person in Barbados to give or provide that evidence, or assistance.

Assistance by transferring prisoner

10.(1) Where there are reasonable grounds to believe that a person who is a prisoner in a Commonwealth country could give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to a criminal matter, a request may be transmitted requesting the country to transfer the prisoner to Barbados to give or provide that evidence or assistance.

(2) Where, pursuant to a request under subsection (1), a prisoner is transferred to Barbados from a Commonwealth country subject to conditions with respect to his custody, release or return, or with respect to any other matter, the central authority for Barbados shall, unless and to the extent that the Commonwealth country waives their observance, take the necessary steps to ensure that the conditions are observed.

- (3) Where any condition such as is referred to in subsection (2) requires that a prisoner be kept in custody while in Barbados, the prisoner shall, while in Barbados or travelling to or from Barbados pursuant to the request, be kept in such custody as may be prescribed.
- (4) Nothing in this section shall be construed as conferring rights on a prisoner.
- (5) In this section “prisoner” in relation to a Commonwealth country, means
- (a) a person who
 - (i) is being held in custody pending trial for or sentence for, or
 - (ii) is under sentence of imprisonment for an offence against the law of that country; or
 - (b) is subject to any limitation on his personal liberty pursuant to that law.

Assistance in serving documents

11. Where, for the purposes of, or in connection with, a criminal matter, it is necessary or desirable to serve any document on a person or an authority in a Commonwealth country, a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the country in effecting the service.

Restriction on use of evidence

- 12.** Any
- (a) evidence or information obtained or, as the case may be, given or provided, by any person pursuant to a request such as is referred to in section 6, 9 or 10; or
 - (b) article, record or thing obtained pursuant to a request such as is referred to in section 6 or 8,

shall be used, by or on behalf of Barbados, only for the purposes of the criminal proceedings to which the request related or, any criminal proceedings consequent

on the investigation to which the request related, unless the Commonwealth country to which the request was made consents to the evidence or information being used for the purposes of any other criminal proceeding.

Immunities and privileges

13.(1) Subject to subsection (2), a person in Barbados pursuant to a request such as is referred to in section 9 or 10

- (a) is not liable to be detained, prosecuted or punished in Barbados for any offence that is alleged to have been committed, or that was committed, before that person's departure, pursuant to the request, from the Commonwealth country to which the request was made;
- (b) may refuse to answer any questions or to produce any article, record or thing if the refusal is based on the law of Barbados; and
- (c) shall not be compelled to give or provide evidence, information or assistance for the purposes of, or in connection with, a criminal matter other than that to which the request relates.

(2) Subsection (1)(a) or (c) does not apply in relation to a person

- (a) if he leaves Barbados and then returns otherwise than pursuant to the same or another request; or
- (b) who has been notified by the central authority for Barbados that his presence is no longer required for the purposes of the request and who then remains in Barbados for more than 15 days after the first date on which he had a reasonable opportunity to leave Barbados.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (1)(a), an offence shall be treated as having been committed only on the date when the conduct constituting the offence was complete, notwithstanding that the offence concerned may be a continuing offence.

Assistance in tracing property**14.** Where

- (a) in Barbados a person
 - (i) has been charged with, or convicted of, a serious offence; or
 - (ii) is suspected, on reasonable grounds, of having committed such an offence; and
- (b) property or benefits derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of that offence is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to be in a Commonwealth country,

a request may be transmitted requesting that assistance be given by the Commonwealth country in accordance with the law of that country in identifying, locating or assessing the value or amount of the property or benefits.

Assistance in relation to certain orders**15.(1)** Where

- (a) in Barbados
 - (i) a restraining order has been made restraining dealings with identified property which is, or is suspected on reasonable grounds of being, property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of a serious offence, or
 - (ii) a confiscation order or a forfeiture order has been made confiscating or forfeiting property or benefits derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of a serious offence, or
 - (iii) a confiscation order has been made imposing on a person a pecuniary penalty calculated by reference to the value of property or benefits derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, by the person from the commission of a serious offence; and

- (b) property to which the restraining order would apply or, which is available for the satisfaction of the forfeiture order or confiscation order or pecuniary penalty under the confiscation order, is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to be in a Commonwealth country,

then subject to subsection (3), a request may be transmitted requesting that the order concerned be enforced in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth country and that, to that end, the country give appropriate assistance.

(2) Where a request to a Commonwealth country under this section has been accepted, the central authority for Barbados shall inform the central authority for that country if the confiscation order or forfeiture order or restraining order concerned is thereafter varied or ceases to have effect.

(3) A request shall not be made under this section for the enforcement of a confiscation order if the amount specified in the order or the total value of property required to satisfy the order or the pecuniary penalty under the order would be less than \$25 000 or such other amount as may be prescribed.

Assistance in obtaining order in nature of restraining order

16. Where

(a) in Barbados

- (i) a person has been, or is likely to be, charged with, or has been convicted of, a serious offence; and
- (ii) a confiscation order or a forfeiture order has been, or is likely to be, made confiscating or forfeiting property or benefits derived or obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of the serious offence; and

(b) property or benefits referred to in paragraph (a)(ii) are suspected, on reasonable grounds, to be in a Commonwealth country,

a request may be transmitted requesting that an order be made, in accordance with the law of the Commonwealth country, restraining dealings with identified

property or benefits and that, to that end, the country give appropriate assistance.

PART III

REQUESTS BY COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES TO BARBADOS FOR ASSISTANCE

Form of requests

17.(1) Subject to subsection (2), the *First Schedule* applies in relation to a request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply in relation to an informal request for assistance under this Act which is transmitted orally, but in the event that such a request is accepted

- (a) it is required to be implemented only to the extent that the central authority for Barbados considers reasonable; and
- (b) it shall be deemed to have been withdrawn if a request in accordance with subsection (1) for the assistance concerned is not transmitted within such period as the central authority for Barbados considers reasonable.

(3) Where a Commonwealth country making a request for assistance under this Act wishes the request, or any part of it, to be kept confidential, it shall so state, giving reasons, in the request, or in a document accompanying, but not forming part of, the request.

Acceptance or refusal of requests

18.(1) Subject to this section and to the provisions of the *Anti-Terrorism Act*, Cap. 158, a request for assistance under this Act duly made by a Commonwealth country shall be accepted.

- (2) A request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country shall be refused if, in the opinion of the central authority for Barbados,
- (a) the request relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person for an offence that is, or is by reason of the circumstances in which it is alleged to have been committed or was committed, an offence of a political character;
 - (b) there are substantial grounds for believing that the request has been made with a view to prosecuting or punishing a person for an offence of a political character;
 - (c) there are substantial grounds for believing that the request was made for the purpose of prosecuting, punishing or otherwise causing prejudice to a person on account of the person's race, sex, religion, nationality, place of origin or political opinions;
 - (d) the request relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person in respect of conduct that, if it had occurred in Barbados, would not have constituted an offence under the criminal law of Barbados;
 - (e) the granting of the request would be contrary to the *Constitution* of Barbados, or would prejudice the security, international relations or any substantial interest related to national security or other essential public policy of Barbados;
 - (f) the request relates to conduct by a person which constitutes an offence in respect of which the person has already been convicted or acquitted by a court or tribunal in Barbados;
 - (g) the prisoner is not prepared to give his consent to the transfer in the case of a request such as is referred to in section 23(1);
 - (h) the request is for assistance of a kind which cannot be given under this Act, or would require steps to be taken for its implementation that could not be lawfully taken; or

-
- (i) the implementation of the request would require an individual to act, or refrain from acting, in a certain way and the individual is not willing to do so and cannot be lawfully compelled to do so.
- (3) A request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country may be refused if, in the opinion of the central authority for Barbados,
- (a) the request relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person in respect of conduct that, if it had occurred in Barbados, would not have constituted an offence against the law of Barbados;
 - (b) the request relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person in respect of conduct that occurred, or is alleged to have occurred, outside the country making the request and similar conduct occurring outside Barbados in similar circumstances would not have constituted an offence against the law of Barbados;
 - (c) the request relates to the prosecution or punishment of a person in respect of conduct where, if it had occurred in Barbados at the same time and had constituted an offence against the law of Barbados, the person responsible could no longer be prosecuted by reason of lapse of time or for any other reason;
 - (d) the provision of the assistance would impose an excessive burden on the resources of Barbados;
 - (e) the conditions, exceptions or qualifications imposed pursuant to section 4(2) in relation to the country prevent the request being accepted;
 - (f) the request, not being one such as is referred to in section 17(2), does not meet the requirements of the *First Schedule*;
 - (g) there are reasonable grounds for doing so in the case of a request such as is referred to in section 23(1); or
 - (h) the request cannot be accommodated within relevant legal practices and procedures in Barbados.

(4) If, in the opinion of the central authority for Barbados, the expense involved in complying with a request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country, and accepted, would be of an extraordinary nature, the central authority for Barbados shall consult with the central authority for the country as to the terms and conditions under which compliance with the request may continue and, in the absence of agreement in that regard, the central authority for Barbados may refuse to continue further with the request.

(5) Where any of the grounds referred to in subsection (2) or (3) apply in relation to some, but not all, of the matters in respect of which a request for assistance under this Act is made, nothing in this section operates to prevent the request being accepted to the extent that no such ground applies.

(6) If a request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country, other than an informal one made pursuant to section 17(2), is refused, the fact of, and, subject to subsection (7), the grounds for, the refusal shall be given by the central authority for Barbados to the central authority for that country.

(7) In the case of a refusal of a request such as is referred to in section 23(1) the central authority for Barbados is not required to give grounds for the refusal.

(8) After giving preliminary consideration to a request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country, the central authority for Barbados may require the central authority for that country to furnish information relative to the request, and if that information is not furnished within such period as the central authority for Barbados considers reasonable the request shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.

(9) For the purposes of this section, an offence is not an offence of a political character if it is an offence within the scope of an international convention to which both Barbados and the Commonwealth country making the request are parties and which imposes on the parties thereto an obligation to afford mutual assistance in criminal matters relating to the offence.

Assistance to country in obtaining evidence

19.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting assistance by Barbados in obtaining, by any of the means stated in section 6, evidence or information relevant to a criminal matter in relation to the Commonwealth country making the request, and the request is accepted.

(2) Subject to this section, regulations may prescribe practices and procedures for obtaining evidence or information pursuant to a request for assistance under this section by a Commonwealth country.

(3) A person from whom evidence is taken in Barbados pursuant to a request for assistance under this section by a Commonwealth country

(a) may refuse to answer a question if

(i) the refusal is based on the law of Barbados,

(ii) to require the person to answer the question would constitute a breach of privilege recognised by the law of the Commonwealth country, or

(iii) to answer the question would constitute the commission by the person of an offence against the law of the Commonwealth country; and

(b) shall not be compelled to give or provide evidence or information for the purposes of, or in connection with, a criminal matter other than that to which the request relates.

(4) Where the request for assistance under this section is to the effect that evidence or information be obtained by the means stated in section 6(d) copies of records not publicly available may be produced, copied or examined only to the extent that they could be produced to, or examined by, enforcement agencies or prosecuting or judicial authorities in Barbados.

Assistance to country in locating or identifying person

20.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting assistance by Barbados in locating or identifying and locating a person believed to be in Barbados, who

- (a) is or might be concerned in or affected by; or
- (b) could give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to,

a criminal matter in relation to the Commonwealth country making the request, and the request is accepted.

(2) Where this section applies, the central authority for Barbados shall use its best endeavours to have the person located, or identified and located, and shall inform the central authority of the Commonwealth country making the request as to the outcome of those endeavours.

Assistance to country in obtaining article or thing by search and seizure if necessary

21.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting assistance by Barbados in obtaining, by search and seizure if necessary, an article or thing in Barbados for the purposes of, or in connection with, a criminal matter in relation to the Commonwealth country making the request, and the request is accepted.

(2) Where this section applies, the Attorney-General shall, unless the article or thing concerned is otherwise lawfully obtained, authorise the Commissioner of Police, in writing, to apply to a magistrate for a search warrant in respect of the article or thing.

(3) For the purposes of subsection (2), the Commissioner of Police may apply for the issue of a search warrant to a magistrate having jurisdiction in the area where the article or thing is believed to be located.

(4) The authorisation given to the Commissioner of Police pursuant to subsections (1) and (2) may be executed on his behalf by any member of the Police Force.

(5) The laws of Barbados with respect to the procedure for

(a) the making and disposal of an application for a search warrant; and

(b) the execution of a search warrant,

apply, so far as they are capable of applying, to an application under subsection (3) and to the execution of any warrant issued pursuant to the application.

(6) The central authority for Barbados shall provide such certification as may be required by the central authority for the Commonwealth country making the request concerning the result of a search, the place and circumstances of any seizure, and the subsequent custody of the property seized.

(7) Where this section applies, the Attorney-General may give, in writing, authority to enable any article or thing obtained pursuant to a request to be removed to the Commonwealth country that made the request

Assistance to country in arranging attendance of person

22.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting that assistance be given by Barbados in arranging the attendance in the Commonwealth country making the request, of a person in Barbados to give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to any criminal matter in relation to that Commonwealth country, and the request is accepted.

(2) Where this section applies, the central authority for Barbados shall

(a) inquire whether or not the person concerned is willing to attend as requested;

(b) inform the central authority for the Commonwealth country making the request as to the outcome of the inquiry; and

- (c) if the person is willing to attend as requested, make appropriate arrangements to facilitate that attendance.

Assistance to country transferring prisoner

23.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting Barbados to transfer a prisoner in Barbados to the Commonwealth country making the request to give or provide evidence or assistance relevant to a criminal matter in relation to that Commonwealth country, and the request is accepted.

(2) Where this section applies, the central authority after consultation with the Minister responsible for Justice shall cause a prisoner to be transferred to the Commonwealth country making the request for the purpose of giving effect to the request.

(3) The central authority for Barbados may state, and inform the central authority for the Commonwealth country making the request as to, conditions subject to which a prisoner is to be transferred including conditions with respect to the custody, release or return of the prisoner.

(4) A period during which a prisoner is in custody in a Commonwealth country, pursuant to a request, shall be deemed for all purposes, to be time served in custody in Barbados.

(5) In this section, “prisoner” means a person who is being held in custody pending trial for, or sentence for, or is under imprisonment for, an offence, or is subject to any limitation on his personal liberty pursuant to any law.

Assistance to country in serving documents

24.(1) This section applies where a request is transmitted requesting assistance by Barbados in effecting the service of a document on a person or an authority in Barbados for the purposes of, or in connection with, a criminal matter in relation to the Commonwealth country making the request, and the request is accepted.

- (2) Where this section applies, the central authority for Barbados shall
- (a) use its best endeavours to have the document served
 - (i) in accordance with procedures proposed in the request, or
 - (ii) if those procedures would be unlawful or inappropriate, or no procedures are so proposed, in accordance with the law of Barbados; and
 - (b) if the document
 - (i) is served, transmit to the central authority for the Commonwealth country making the request a certificate as to service, or
 - (ii) is not served, transmit to the central authority a statement of the reasons which prevented the service.
- (3) In this section, “document” does not include
- (a) a subpoena; or
 - (b) a process
 - (i) requiring the attendance of a person before a court or tribunal in the Commonwealth country making the request, or
 - (ii) which attracts a criminal penalty or sanction for non-compliance with its requirements.

Assistance to country in tracing property

- 25.(1)** This section applies where
- (a) the central authority for a Commonwealth country transmits to the central authority for Barbados a certificate given, for the purpose of a request for assistance under this section, by a person legally qualified

in the Commonwealth country, to the effect that in the country a named person

- (i) has been charged with, or convicted of, a specified serious offence, or
 - (ii) is suspected, on reasonable grounds of having committed such a specified offence;
- (b) property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of that offence is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to be in Barbados;
- (c) a request is transmitted requesting assistance by Barbados in identifying, locating or assessing the value or amount of that property; and
- (d) the request is accepted.
- (2) Where this section applies, the central authority for Barbados shall
- (a) use its best endeavours to give the assistance requested and, in doing so, shall invoke the powers and procedures available for that purpose; and
 - (b) inform the central authority for the Commonwealth country making the request as to the outcome of those endeavours.

Assistance to country in relation to certain orders

26.(1) This section applies where

- (a) an order is made in a Commonwealth country
 - (i) confiscating or forfeiting property derived or obtained directly or indirectly from the commission of a specified serious offence;
 - (ii) imposing on the person against whom the order is made, a pecuniary penalty calculated by reference to the value of property so derived or obtained; or

- (iii) restraining dealings with property which is, or is suspected on reasonable grounds of being, property so derived or obtained;
 - (b) property available for the satisfaction of the order or the pecuniary penalty under the order, or to which the order would apply, is suspected, on reasonable grounds, to be in Barbados;
 - (c) a request is transmitted requesting that the order concerned be enforced in accordance with the law of Barbados and that, to that end, Barbados give appropriate assistance; and
 - (d) the request is accepted.
- (2) Where this section applies, the Attorney-General shall cause an application to be made to the Supreme Court in accordance with the rules of the Supreme Court for the registration of the order concerned.
- (3) On application made pursuant to subsection (2), the Supreme Court shall register the order if it is satisfied
- (a) that at the time of registration the order is in force; and
 - (b) in the case of an order such as is referred to in subsection (1)(a)(ii)
 - (i) that the person against whom the order was made appeared in the proceedings or, if he did not do so, that he received notice of the proceedings in sufficient time to enable him to defend them, or that he had died or absconded before such notice could be given to him, and
 - (ii) that the order is not subject to appeal.
- (4) Where an order is registered in accordance with this section, a copy of an amendment made to the order (whether before or after registration) may be registered in the same way as the order, and the amendments do not, for the purposes of this Act have effect until they are registered.

- (5) An order or an amendment of an order shall be registered by the registration, in accordance with the rules of the Supreme Court, of
- (a) a copy of the order or amendment sealed by the court or other authority making the order or amendment; or
 - (b) a copy of the order or amendment duly authenticated in accordance with section 31(2)(a).
- (6) The Supreme Court shall, after appropriate notice has been given to the central authority for Barbados, cancel the registration of an order made in accordance with this section if it appears to the court to have ceased to have effect in the Commonwealth country that made the request for assistance.
- (7) Regulations may make provision for and with respect to the enforcement in Barbados of an order registered in accordance with this section and may, for that purpose, direct that any act shall apply in relation to the order, subject to the limitations, exceptions or restrictions (if any) as may be prescribed, and the Act shall apply accordingly.
- (8) In this section “appeal” includes any proceedings by way of discharging or setting aside a judgment or an application for a new trial or stay of execution.

Assistance to country in obtaining restraining order

27.(1) This section applies where

- (a) the central authority for a Commonwealth country transmits to the central authority for Barbados a certificate given, for the purposes of a request for assistance under this section, by a person legally qualified in the Commonwealth country, to the effect that in the country
 - (i) a named person has been, or is likely to be charged with, or has been convicted of, a specified serious offence, and

-
- (ii) an order has been, or is likely to be, made that has or, as the case may be, will have, the effect under the law of the country
 - (A) of confiscating or forfeiting property derived or obtained, directly or indirectly, from the commission of the serious offence, or
 - (B) of imposing on that named person a pecuniary penalty calculated by reference to the value of the property so derived or obtained;
 - (b) property so derived or obtained, or which would be available to satisfy a pecuniary penalty under, the confiscation order, or, under such an order if made, is suspected, on reasonable grounds to be in Barbados;
 - (c) a request is transmitted requesting that an order be made in accordance with the law of Barbados restraining dealings with property and that, to that end, Barbados give appropriate assistance; and
 - (d) the request is accepted.
- (2) Where this section applies, the Attorney-General shall cause an application to be made to the Supreme Court in accordance with the rules of the Supreme Court to secure the making of an order of the kind requested.
- (3) Regulations may make provision for, and with respect to, the implementation of a request under this section, and may for that purpose direct that any Act shall apply in relation to any such request, subject to limitations, exceptions or restrictions (if any) as may be prescribed; and the Act shall apply accordingly.

PART IV

APPLICATION OF ACT TO COUNTRIES OTHER THAN
COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES**Definitions**

28. In this Part,

“country” means a country other than one included in the definition of “Commonwealth country” in section 2(1);

“treaty” includes a convention, protocol, agreement or arrangement.

Mutual assistance between Barbados and non-Commonwealth countries

29.(1) This Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis*

(a) to any country which has a bilateral treaty with Barbados in respect of mutual assistance in criminal matters; and

(b) to any country which is party to the *United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Pyschotropic Substances, 1988*.

(2) Unless the Minister otherwise directs, all expenses incurred in respect of any requests made under subsection (1)(b) must be paid by the country making the request.

(3) Any co-operation that is requested under subsection (1)(b) shall be rendered on the basis of reciprocity.

(4) The Attorney-General may by order published in the *Gazette* prescribe any limitation, condition, exception or qualification to the application of this Act as it applies to any country to which subsection (1)(b) relates.

[2001-33]

PART IVA

APPLICATION OF THE CARIBBEAN TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL
ASSISTANCE IN SERIOUS CRIMINAL MATTERS

[2008-10]

Definitions

29A.(1) In this Part,

“Treaty” means the *Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters*

(a) signed in Saint Lucia on the 6th day of July, 2005;

(b) to which Barbados is a party,

the text of which is set out in the *Second Schedule*.

(2) The definitions set out in Article 1 of the Treaty shall apply to this Part.

[2008-10]

Treaty to have the force of law

29B. The Treaty has the force of law in Barbados.

[2008-10]

Central Authority

29C. For the purposes of this Part and pursuant to Article 4 of the Treaty, the Attorney-General shall be the central authority of Barbados.

[2008-10]

Application

29D.(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of Parts II, III and IV, this Part shall apply to

- (a) a Commonwealth country; or
- (b) any other country,

that is a State Party to the Treaty.

(2) Where the assistance requested cannot be facilitated under this Part, then an application for assistance may be made under Part II, III or IV, as the case may be.

[2008-10]

PART V
MISCELLANEOUS

Certificates given by the Attorney-General

30.(1) Where he is satisfied that it is the case, the Attorney-General may give a certificate in such form as he determines certifying all or any of the following facts:

- (a) that a request for assistance under this Act has been made by a Commonwealth country;
- (b) that the request meets the requirements of this Act;
- (c) that the acceptance of the request was duly made and in accordance with this Act.

(2) In any relevant proceedings, a certificate purporting to have been given under subsection (1) shall be received as conclusive proof of the matters certified by the certificate.

Authentication

31.(1) In any relevant proceedings, a document that is duly authenticated is admissible in evidence.

(2) A document is duly authenticated for the purposes of subsection (1) if it purports to be

- (a) signed or certified by a Judge or magistrate of a Commonwealth country making a request;
- (b) authenticated by the oath of a witness or of a public officer of a Commonwealth country making a request; or
- (c) sealed with an official or public seal of a Minister of State, or of a department or public office of the Government, of such a country.

(3) In any relevant proceedings, a certificate purporting to have been given

- (a) by the central authority for a Commonwealth country certifying the matters referred to in
 - (i) paragraph (b)(i) or (ii) or paragraph (c) of the definition of “criminal matter” in section 2(1); or
 - (ii) paragraph (b)(iii) of the definition of “serious offence” in section 2(1); or
- (b) by a legally qualified person for the purposes of a request for assistance under section 25 or 27

shall be received as evidence of the matters duly certified by the certificate.

(4) Nothing in this section operates to prevent the proof of any matter, or the admission of any documents, in accordance with the regulations or any other law,

Transit

32.(1) Where a person is to be transported in custody from a Commonwealth country through Barbados to another Commonwealth country pursuant to a request for assistance, of the kind referred to in the scheme, by the other Commonwealth country, the person

- (a) may be transported through Barbados in the custody of another person; and
- (b) if an aircraft or ship by which the person is being transported lands or calls at a place in Barbados, shall be kept in such custody as the Minister directs in writing until the person's transportation is continued.

(2) Where a person is being held in custody pursuant to a direction under subsection (1)(b) and the person's transportation is not, in the opinion of the Minister responsible for Justice, continued within a reasonable time, that Minister may direct that the person be transported in custody to the Commonwealth country from which the person was first transported.

Escaping

33. A person who escapes from lawful custody while in Barbados pursuant to a request under section 10, or while being kept in custody pursuant to a direction under section 32(1)(b), commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for 3 years.

Arrest of person who has escaped from custody

34.(1) A police officer may, without warrant, arrest a person if the police officer has reasonable grounds to believe that the person

- (a) has been brought to Barbados pursuant to a request under section 10 or was being kept in custody pursuant to a direction under section 32(1)(b); and

- (b) has escaped from lawful custody while in Barbados pursuant to the request, or while being so kept in custody.
- (2) A person who has been arrested pursuant to subsection (1) shall be returned to custody in accordance with this Act.

Regulations

35.(1) The Attorney-General may make regulations prescribing any matter necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act and, in particular,

- (a) making provision as to evidence or proof of any matter for the purposes of this Act;
 - (b) prescribing expenses and allowances payable to a person in Barbados pursuant to a request;
 - (c) prescribing conditions to be imposed for the protection of an interest in any property to be sent to a requesting country pursuant to a request;
 - (d) prescribing conditions for the protection of any property sent to, or by, a Commonwealth country pursuant to a request, and making provision for the return of property in Barbados pursuant to a request;
 - (e) prescribing anything authorised or required by this Act to be prescribed.
- (2) Regulations may, with such limitations, conditions, exceptions or qualifications as may be prescribed, extend the application of any Act so as to enable any request by a Commonwealth country for assistance under this Act to be implemented or any assistance so requested to be given; and the Act shall apply accordingly.
- (3) Regulations made for the purposes of section 19(2) may include procedures for, and powers in relation to, the taking of evidence in Barbados by commissioners from, or nominated by, the Commonwealth country concerned.
- (4) Regulations made under this Act shall be subject to negative resolution.

FIRST SCHEDULE*(Section 17(1))**Request for Assistance made by Commonwealth Countries*

1. A request for assistance under this Act made by a Commonwealth country shall

- (a) specify the assistance requested;
- (b) identify the person, agency or authority that initiated the request;
- (c) state any period within which the country wishes the request to be complied with;
- (d) if the request would involve travel by any person from Barbados to the country, give details of allowances and accommodation to which the person would be entitled; and
- (e) contain such information as is available to the central authority for the country as will facilitate compliance with the request.

2.(1) Where the assistance requested by a Commonwealth country is for the purposes of an investigation, the request

- (a) shall be accompanied by the certificate, in relation to the investigation, that is referred to in paragraph (b)(i) of the definition of “criminal matter” in section 2(1); and
- (b) shall state when the investigation commenced and the nature of the investigation.

(2) Where the assistance requested by a Commonwealth country is for the purposes of proceedings, the request

- (a) shall be accompanied by the certificate, in relation to the proceedings, that is referred to in paragraph (b)(ii) of the definition of “criminal matter” in section 2(1); and

- (b) shall
 - (i) give details of the proceedings and the offence concerned, including a summary of the known facts;
 - (ii) give the identity, if known, of the person to whom the proceedings relate or would relate; and
 - (iii) state when the proceedings were instituted, the stage reached in the proceedings and, where applicable, identify the court exercising jurisdiction.

3. Where a request such as is referred to in section 19 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request

- (a) shall give details of the procedure that the country wishes to be followed in giving effect to the request, including details of the manner and form in which any evidence or information is to be supplied to that country;
- (b) shall, where relevant, indicate whether any person, from whom evidence is to be taken, is to be examined
 - (i) orally or in writing;
 - (ii) under oath;
 - (iii) in the presence of his legal representative; or
 - (iv) in the presence of the person to whom any relevant proceedings in that country relate;
- (c) shall, where evidence is to be taken from a person, specify the questions to be put to the person or the subject matter about which the person is to be examined;
- (d) shall, where evidence is to be taken from a person, give details of any special requirements of the country as to the manner of taking evidence relevant to its admissibility in the country; and

- (e) shall give details of any privileges or exemptions under the law of the country in relation to obtaining evidence or information by the means proposed in the request.

4. Where a request such as is referred to in section 21 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request shall identify the article or thing which is to be obtained and, so far as is reasonably practicable, shall contain all information available to the central authority for the country which may be required to be adduced in an application under the law of Barbados for any necessary warrant or authorization to effect a seizure of that article or thing.

5. Where a request such as is referred to in section 23 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request shall identify the subject on which evidence or information is to be provided and state the reasons for requiring the personal appearance of the prisoner.

6. Where a request such as is referred to in section 24 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request

- (a) shall be accompanied by the document to be served; and
- (b) shall, where that document relates to the attendance of a person in the country, give such notice as that country is able to provide of outstanding warrants or other judicial orders in criminal matters against that person.

7. Where a request such as referred to in section 25 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request shall

- (a) give details of the specified serious offence; and
- (b) state the grounds for suspecting that the relevant property is in Barbados and give any information in the possession of the country which will assist in identifying or locating that property.

8. Where a request such as is referred to in section 26 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request shall

- (a) be accompanied by a copy of the relevant order made in the country
 - (i) sealed by the court that made the order; or
 - (ii) duly authenticated, and identify the law under which the order was made;
- (b) give details of the specified serious offence;
- (c) state the grounds for suspecting that the relevant property is in Barbados and give any information in the possession of the country which will assist in identifying or locating the property; and
- (d) give particulars of any amount paid or recovered under the relevant order.

9. Where a request such as is referred to in section 27 is made by a Commonwealth country, the request

- (a) shall, if relevant, be accompanied by a copy of the order made in the country
 - (i) sealed by the court that made the order; or
 - (ii) duly authenticated,and identify the law under which the order was made;
- (b) shall, if relevant, state the grounds for believing that an order is likely to be made;
- (c) shall give details of the specified serious offence in respect of which the order was, or is likely to be, made; and

- (d) shall state the grounds for suspecting that the relevant property is in Barbados and give any information in the possession of the country which will assist in identifying the property.

[2008-10]

SECOND SCHEDULE*(Section 29A)***CARIBBEAN TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE IN SERIOUS
CRIMINAL MATTERS**

The States Parties:

CONSCIOUS that the escalation in serious crime, including transnational organised crime is posing a threat to effective governance in State Parties;

RECOGNISING the importance of enhanced co-operation among the States Parties in the suppression of crime;

AFFIRMING the importance of the principles of sovereign equality, mutual respect and friendly relations;

DESIRING to improve the effectiveness of the States Parties in the investigation, prosecution and suppression of crime through co-operation and mutual legal assistance in serious criminal matters;

DESIROUS of extending to States Parties the widest possible mutual legal assistance within the limits of the laws of their respective jurisdictions;

CONVINCED that the adoption of common rules in the field of mutual legal assistance in serious criminal matters will contribute to development and integration,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1**DEFINITIONS**

For the purposes of this Treaty, the following definitions shall apply:

“Community” means the Caribbean Community including the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME) established by the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas signed at Nassau, The Bahamas on 5th July 2001;

“confiscation” includes where applicable forfeiture and the permanent deprivation of property, proceeds or instrumentalities of an offence by order of a court;

“criminal matters” means proceedings relating to any offence whether created by statute or at common law;

“freezing” or “seizure” means temporarily prohibiting the transfer, conversion, disposition, or movement of property or temporarily assuming custody or control of the property on the basis of an order issued by a court or a competent authority;

“interest” in relation to property means a:

- (a) legal or equitable estate or interest in the property;
- (b) right, power or privilege in connection with the property, whether present, future, vested or contingent;

“person” means any natural or legal person;

“political offence” or “offence of a political character” means an offence committed in the course of and incidental to an uprising or other violent political disturbance;

“premises” includes the whole or any part of a structure, building, aircraft or vessel;

“proceedings” means any procedure conducted by or under the supervision of a judge, magistrate, or judicial officer however described in relation to any alleged or proven offence, and includes an inquiry, investigation, or preliminary or final determination of facts;

“proceeds of crime” means any property suspected or found by a court to be derived or realized directly or indirectly from the commission of a serious

crime and includes, on a proportional basis, property into which any property derived or realized directly from the offence was converted, transformed or intermingled, as well as income, capital or other economic gains derived or realized from such property at any time since the commission of the offence;

“property” means real or personal property of every description, whether situated in the requested State or elsewhere and whether tangible or intangible, and includes an interest in any such real or personal property;

“requested State” means a State Party to which a request for assistance under this Treaty has been made;

“requesting State” mean a State Party which has made a request for assistance under this Treaty;

“serious crime” means an act or omission under the laws of a State Party which constitutes a criminal offence punishable by at least twelve months imprisonment or more and includes an offence against the law relating to taxation;

“State Party” means a State for which this Treaty is in force;

“witness” means a person who has given, is obliged to give, or has agreed to give a written statement or oral testimony or both in relation to the commission or possible commission of a serious crime or in respect of which there are reasonable grounds to believe will be committed.

ARTICLE 2

PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this Treaty is to increase cooperation in mutual legal assistance among Caribbean countries in respect of serious criminal matters and to combat criminal activity.

2. States Parties shall afford each other, to the extent possible under their laws, the widest measure of mutual legal assistance at any stage of investigations, prosecutions, and judicial proceedings in relation to serious crimes.

3. Mutual legal assistance shall include, to the extent permitted by the law of the requested State:

- (a) identifying and locating persons and objects;
- (b) taking evidence or statements from persons;
- (c) obtaining the production of judicial or other documents;
- (d) serving judicial documents;
- (e) examining objects, sites and premises;
- (f) providing any available information and relevant exhibits;
- (g) providing originals or certified copies of any documents and records;
- (h) facilitating the personal appearances of witnesses;
- (i) effecting a temporary transfer of persons in custody to appear as witnesses;
- (j) executing searches and seizures;
- (k) tracing, seizing, freezing and confiscating the proceeds or instrumentalities of crime; and
- (l) providing other assistance consistent with the objects of this Treaty as agreed to by the States Parties.

ARTICLE 3

EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION

Each State Party shall take all necessary measures, including legislative and administrative measures, to ensure the effective implementation of the object and purpose of this Treaty within its territory.

ARTICLE 4

CENTRAL AUTHORITY

1. Each State Party shall designate a central authority who shall have the responsibility and power to execute requests for legal assistance or to transmit them to the competent authorities for execution.
2. States Parties shall notify each other on the designation of their respective central authorities.
3. Requests for legal assistance under this Treaty shall be made through the central authorities of the States Parties.

ARTICLE 5

REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

1. A request for assistance shall be made in writing. In urgent circumstances, a request may be made orally but shall be confirmed in writing within seven days of the oral request. The requested State shall acknowledge receipt of the request within fifteen days of the date of receipt.

2. Every request shall include where appropriate:
- (a) the name of the competent authority conducting the proceedings to which the request relates;
 - (b) the purpose of the request and a description of the assistance sought;
 - (c) a description of the nature of the proceedings;
 - (d) a description of the facts alleged to constitute the offence and copies of the text of the relevant laws;
 - (e) the identity, nationality, and address of the person to be served, where necessary;
 - (f) the reasons for and details of any particular procedure or requirement that the requesting State wishes to be followed, including a statement as to whether sworn or affirmed evidence or statements are required;
 - (g) specifications of any time-limit within which compliance with the request is desired;
 - (h) details of the property to be traced, frozen, seized or confiscated and the grounds for believing that the property is located in the requested State;
 - (i) in the case of a request to freeze or confiscate assets believed on reasonable grounds to be located in the requested State, details of the offence in question and particulars of any proceedings commenced in respect of that offence accompanied by a copy of any relevant freezing or confiscation order;
 - (j) a statement setting out any requirements of the requesting State concerning confidentiality relating to the request and reasons for those requirements;
 - (k) in the case of lending of exhibits, the person or category of persons who will have custody of the exhibit, the place to which the exhibit is

to be removed, any test to be conducted and the date by which the exhibit will be returned;

- (l) in the case of transferring persons in custody to give evidence or assist in investigations, the person or category of persons who will have custody during the transfer, the place to which the persons are to be transferred and the date of their return;
- (m) any other information that may assist in giving effect to the request.

3. Requests, supporting documents, and other communications made pursuant to this Treaty shall be transmitted in the language of the requesting State and accompanied by an official translation where necessary.

4. Requests for service shall be accompanied by a translation of the documents to be served into a language understood by the person to be served and the official language of the requested State.

5. If the requested State considers that the information contained in the request is not sufficient to enable the request to be dealt with, it may request that the requesting State supplies additional information within fifteen days.

ARTICLE 6

EXECUTION OF REQUESTS

1. The requested State shall act on requests for assistance as expeditiously as practicable.

2. At the request of the requesting State, the requested State shall state the date and place of execution of the request.

ARTICLE 7

REFUSAL AND POSTPONEMENT OF REQUEST

1. Legal assistance may be refused if:
 - (a) execution of the request would be contrary to the laws of the requested State or unreasonable on other grounds;
 - (b) execution of the request would impair the sovereignty, security, public order or similar essential public interest of the requested State, prejudice the safety of any person or be contrary to its laws or be unreasonable on other grounds;
 - (c) the request relates to an offence of a political character;
 - (d) the request relates to an offence that is subject to investigation or prosecution in the requested State or the prosecution of which in the requesting State would be incompatible with the requested State's law on double jeopardy;
 - (e) the request is in respect of offences related to military law which do not constitute offences under ordinary criminal law;
 - (f) the request relates to an offence for which the requested person has been convicted or acquitted;
 - (g) there are substantial grounds for believing that compliance with the request would facilitate the prosecution or punishment of a person affected by the request on account of the person's race, religion, nationality or political opinion, or for any of the foregoing reasons would cause prejudice to such persons; or
 - (h) any confidentiality requested in relation to information or evidence furnished by the requested State would not be protected by the requesting State.

2. An offence shall not be an offence of a political character for the purposes of this Article if it is an offence within the scope of any international convention to which both the requesting and requested States are parties and which imposes on the parties thereto an obligation either to extradite or prosecute a person accused of the commission of the offence.
3. States Parties shall not decline to render legal assistance on the ground of secrecy of banks or similar financial institutions.
4. Dual criminality shall not be a pre-requisite for the rendering of assistance under this Treaty.
5. Assistance may be postponed by the requested State if the execution of the request would interfere with an ongoing investigation or prosecution in the requested State. In considering whether or not to postpone the execution of a request pursuant to this paragraph, the requested State shall determine whether assistance can be granted in part without postponement or subject to such conditions as it considers necessary.
6. Before refusing a request or postponing its execution, the requested State shall consider whether legal assistance may be granted subject to certain conditions. If the requesting State accepts assistance subject to these conditions, it shall comply with them.
7. Reasons shall be given by the requested State for any refusal or postponement of legal assistance.

ARTICLE 8

LIMITATION ON USE

The requesting State shall not disclose or use information or evidence obtained for purposes other than those stated in the request without the prior consent of the central authority of the requested State.

ARTICLE 9

PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIALITY

1. The requesting State and the requested State shall use their best efforts to keep confidential the request for assistance, its contents, supporting documents, and the fact of granting such assistance. In the event that the request cannot be executed without breaching confidentiality, the requested State shall so inform the requesting State which shall then determine whether the request should nevertheless be executed and inform the requested State of its decision.

2. The requesting State and the requested State shall keep confidential, evidence and information provided pursuant to a request, except where such evidence and information is required for the proceedings to which the request relates.

ARTICLE 10

COSTS OF EXECUTING REQUESTS

1. The costs of executing a request shall be borne by the requesting State, unless otherwise determined by the Parties and shall include:

- (a) travel and other expenses related to the transportation of persons, including accompanying officials, to and from the territory of the requested State;

- (b) fees and allowances as determined by the requesting and requested States;
- (c) stenographic reports requested by the central authority of the requesting State other than reports prepared by a salaried government employee;
- (d) fees payable to interpreters or translators; and
- (e) payment in respect of any other matter incidental to the assistance rendered.

2. If, during the execution of a request, it becomes apparent that execution of the request will entail expenses of an extraordinary nature, the respective central authorities shall consult to determine the terms and conditions under which execution may continue.

ARTICLE 11

IDENTIFYING AND LOCATING PERSONS AND OBJECTS

1. Requests may be made under this Treaty for assistance in identifying or locating persons and objects believed to be within the territory of the requested State.
2. In making such a request, the requesting State shall indicate in writing the purpose for which such assistance or cooperation is being sought and shall provide such information as is available to it as to the whereabouts of the person or object to which the request pertains and any other information which may facilitate the identification of the person or object.

ARTICLE 12

SERVICE OF DOCUMENTS

1. The requested State shall effect service of any document relating to or forming part of any request for assistance properly made under the provisions of this Treaty transmitted to it for this purpose by the requesting State; provided that the requested State may, in its discretion, decline to serve any subpoena or other process requiring the attendance of any person before any authority or tribunal in the requesting State.
2. Any request under this Article for assistance in the service of a document requiring the appearance of a person before an authority in the requesting State shall be transmitted to the requested State within a reasonable time before the scheduled appearance.
3. The central authority of the requested State shall endeavor to have the documents served by any:
 - (a) method prescribed by the law of that State for the service of documents in criminal proceedings; or
 - (b) particular method stated in the request, unless such method is incompatible with the law of that State.
4. The requested State shall return proof of service in the manner required by the requesting State provided under the laws of the requested State, and if the law of the requesting State does not provide a manner for return of service, then in the manner required by the requested State.
5. If service cannot be effected, the reasons for this shall be communicated to the competent authority of the requesting State as soon as practicable.

6. A person served in compliance with a request with a summons to appear as a witness in the requesting State and who fails to comply with the summons shall not by reason thereof be liable to any penalty or measure of compulsion in either the requesting or the requested State notwithstanding any contrary statement in the summons.

ARTICLE 13

ASSISTANCE IN GATHERING EVIDENCE

1. The requested State may require a person from whom evidence is sought to appear and testify before, or produce documents, records and articles to, a judge, court, tribunal, or other appropriate authority in or of the requested State and, if necessary, shall compel that person by subpoena to do so.

2. The requested State shall, on request and insofar as may be practicable, furnish to the requesting State advance information of the date and the place of any proceedings pursuant to this Article.

3. Where evidence is being taken pursuant to this Article the requested State shall permit the presence of a defendant, his counsel, or any other person specified in the request.

4. The judge, court, tribunal, or other appropriate authority shall allow counsel for the requested State and for the requesting State, and the defendant or his counsel, the opportunity to question the person whose testimony is sought, and may permit any other person specified in the request to ask questions of the person whose testimony is sought.

5. Insofar as not prohibited by the law of the requested State, business records produced under this Article shall be authenticated in such manner as may be requested by the requesting State in order to make them admissible according to the law of the requesting State.

6. The persons present at proceedings pursuant to a request shall be permitted to make a verbatim transcript of the proceedings. Insofar as not prohibited by the law of the requested State, the use of technical means to make such a verbatim transcript shall be permitted.

ARTICLE 14

TRANSFER OF PERSONS IN CUSTODY TO GIVE EVIDENCE OR TO ASSIST IN INVESTIGATIONS

1. Upon request, a person in custody in the requested State shall be temporarily transferred to the requesting State to assist in investigations or to testify, provided that the person consents.

2. When under the law of the requested State it is required to keep the person transferred in custody, the requesting State shall hold that person in custody and shall return that person in custody at the conclusion of the execution of the request.

3. The period during which the person transferred is in custody in the requesting State shall be deemed to be service in the requested State of an equivalent period of custody in that State for all purposes.

4. When the sentence imposed expires, or where the requested State advises the requesting State that the transferred person is no longer required to be held in custody that person shall be set at liberty and be treated as a person present in the requesting State pursuant to a request seeking that person's attendance.

5. The fact that the person transferred is a national of the requesting State shall not affect any obligation of that State under this Treaty to return that person to the requested State.

6. The return to the requested State pursuant to this Article of a person transferred under this Article shall not require extradition proceedings.

7. A person in custody whose transfer is the subject of a request and who does not consent to the transfer shall not by reason thereof be liable to any penalty or measure of compulsion in either the requesting or the requested State.

ARTICLE 15

FACILITATING THE PERSONAL APPEARANCE OF WITNESSES OR OTHER PERSONS TO GIVE EVIDENCE OR ASSIST IN INVESTIGATIONS

1. The requesting State may request that a person who is in the requested State be made available to testify or to assist in an investigation in the requesting State.

2. The requested State shall invite the person to assist in the investigation or to appear as a witness in the proceedings and seek that person's concurrence thereto. The requested State shall promptly notify the requesting State of the response to the invitation.

3. A person whose appearance as a witness is the subject of a request and who does not agree to appear shall not by reason thereof be liable to any penalty or measure of compulsion in either the requesting State or the requested State.

ARTICLE 16

IMMUNITY OF PERSONS

1. A person present in the requesting State pursuant to a request under this Treaty seeking that person's attendance shall not be subject to:
 - (a) civil process in respect of any act or omission that occurred or is alleged to have occurred before the person's departure from the requested State pursuant to the request; or
 - (b) service of process or be prosecuted or detained or subjected to any other restriction of his personal liberty in that State for any acts or omissions which preceded that person's departure from the requested State, nor shall that person be obliged to give evidence in any proceeding other than the proceedings to which the request relates.

2. Paragraph 1 shall cease to apply if a person, being free to leave the requesting State, has not left it within a period of fifteen days after being officially notified that that person's attendance is no longer required or, having left that State, has voluntarily returned.

ARTICLE 17

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

1. A request for search and seizure and the transfer of any item to the requesting State shall be carried out in accordance with and to the extent permitted under the laws of the requested State.

2. Insofar as not prohibited by the law of the requested State, that State shall provide any item seized upon execution of a request under this Article in a form, or accompanied by such certification as may be required by the requesting State in order to render the seized item admissible in proceedings in the requesting State.

3. The central authority of the requested State may require that the requesting State agrees to terms and conditions for the protection of third party interests in any item to be transferred.

ARTICLE 18

PROCEEDS OF CRIME

1. The requested State shall, upon request, take measures to locate proceeds of crime believed to be located within its territory and shall notify the requesting State of the results of such measures.
2. When, pursuant to paragraph 1, suspected proceeds of crime are found, the requested State shall take such measures as are permitted by its law to seize, freeze, and confiscate these proceeds.

ARTICLE 19

ENFORCEMENT OF ORDERS MADE IN STATES PARTIES IN RELATION TO THE PROCEEDS OF CRIME

1. The requesting State may request assistance of the requested State in securing the enforcement of an order made by a court of competent jurisdiction relating to the proceeds of crime within the jurisdiction of the requested State.
2. The requested State shall, to the extent permitted by its law, give effect to or permit enforcement of a final order confiscating the proceeds of crime made by a court of the requesting State or take other appropriate action to secure the proceeds of crime following a request by the requesting State.
3. The request shall be accompanied by a copy of any order made in the requesting State and shall contain, so far as reasonably practicable, all information available to the central authority of the requesting State which may

be required in connection with the procedures to be followed in the requested State.

4. The law of the requested State shall apply to the determination of the circumstances and manner in which an order may be enforced.

ARTICLE 20

PROTECTION OF THIRD PARTIES

The States Parties shall ensure that the rights of bona fide third parties and victims are respected in all requests relating to the freezing and confiscation of the proceeds of crime.

ARTICLE 21

DISPOSAL OF ASSETS

1. When acting on a request made by another State Party in accordance with this Treaty, States Parties shall give priority consideration to returning the confiscated assets to the requesting State so that it can give compensation to the victims of the crime or return such assets to their legitimate owners.

2. The proceeds of crime confiscated by a State Party pursuant to a request under this Treaty or the funds derived from the sale of such proceeds shall be shared among the:

- (a) requested State; and
- (b) requesting State.

3. Both the requesting State and the requested State may donate to the CARICOM Secretariat a proportion of the proceeds of crime confiscated pursuant to a request under this Treaty or the funds derived from the sale of such proceeds.

4. The proportions in respect of paragraphs 2 and 3 shall be determined by agreement between the requested State and the requesting State.

ARTICLE 22

TREATY NOT TO COVER EXTRADITION

Nothing in the Treaty is to be construed as authorizing the extradition, or the arrest or detention with a view to extradition, of any person.

ARTICLE 23

SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

1. In the case of a dispute between two or more States Parties relating to the interpretation or application of this Treaty, the States Parties shall consult together with a view to the settlement of the dispute by negotiation, enquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial process, or other peaceful means of their own choice.
2. Notwithstanding paragraph 1 the States Parties may submit the dispute to the Caribbean Court of Justice for determination provided all the States Parties to the dispute agree to do so.

ARTICLE 24

OTHER ARRANGEMENTS

States Parties may conclude bilateral or multilateral agreements with one another on the matters dealt with in this Treaty for the purposes of supplementing or strengthening its provisions or facilitating the application of the principles embodied in it.

ARTICLE 25

SIGNATURE AND RATIFICATION

1. The Treaty shall be open for signature to all Member States of the Community including Associate Members as well as States having territories in or bordering on the Caribbean Sea.
2. This Treaty is subject to ratification by the States that are signatories to this Treaty in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.

ARTICLE 26

TERRITORIAL APPLICATION

If a State Party has two or more territorial units in which different systems of law govern matters addressed in this Treaty, it shall state at the time of signature or ratification whether this Treaty will apply to all of its territorial units or only to one or more of them.

ARTICLE 27

AMENDMENT

1. This Treaty may be amended by the States Parties.
2. Every amendment shall be subject to ratification by the States Parties in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures and shall enter into force on the date on which the fifth instrument of ratification is deposited with the Secretary General of the Community (hereinafter referred to as the Depository).

ARTICLE 28
ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Treaty shall enter into force upon the deposit of instruments of ratification or accession by at least five States in accordance with their respective constitutional procedures.
2. This Treaty and all the instruments of ratification or accession shall be deposited with the Depository who shall forward certified true copies to all States Parties, notifying them of the dates of deposit of the instruments of ratification or accession, and shall be registered with the Secretary General of the United Nations.

ARTICLE 29
DENUNCIATION AND WITHDRAWAL

1. A State Party may denounce and withdraw from this Treaty at any time by a written notification addressed to the Depository.
2. Such denunciation and withdrawal shall take effect for the State Party concerned one year after the date of receipt of the notification by the Depository.
3. If this Treaty is terminated either in relation to all or any of the States Parties the treatment of claims by any State Party or the financial obligations of any State Party, shall remain in force until all outstanding matters are resolved.

ARTICLE 30

ACCESSION

1. After its entry into force any Member State of the Community or Associate Member State as well as States having territories in or bordering on the Caribbean Sea may accede to this Treaty.

2. Instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Depository who shall forward certified true copies to all States Parties notifying them of the dates of deposit of the instruments of accession.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective governments, hereby sign the present Treaty.

DONE at *St. John's Islet, Saint Lucia* on the *6th* day of *July 2005*

Signed by

for the Government of Anguilla on the

at

Signed by

[Signature]
for the Government of Antigua and Barbuda on the *6th* day of *July 2005*

at *St. John's Islet, Saint Lucia*

Signed by

for the Government of Bahamas on the

at

Signed by

[Signature]
for the Government of Barbados on the *6th* day of *July 2005*

at *St. John's Islet, Saint Lucia*

Signed by

for the Government of Belize on the

at

Signed by

for the Government of Bermuda on the

at

THE LAWS OF BARBADOS
Printed by the Government Printer, Bay Street, St. Michael
by the authority of the Government of Barbados

Signed by

for the Government of the British Virgin Islands on the

at

Signed by
for the Government of the Cayman Islands on the
at

Signed by
for the Government of the Commonwealth of Dominica on the
at

Signed by
for the Government of Grenada on the
at

Signed by
for the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on the
at

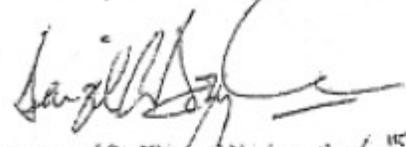
Signed by
for the Government of Haiti on the
at

Signed by
for the Government of Jamaica on the ~~6th day of July 2005~~
at ~~Queen's Hotel, Saint John's~~

THE LAWS OF BARBADOS
Printed by the Government Printer, Bay Street, St. Michael
by the authority of the Government of Barbados

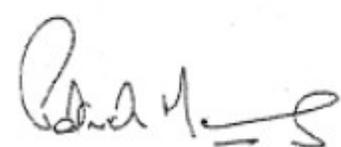
Signed by
for the Government of Montserrat on the
at

Signed by 
 for the Government of Saint Lucia on the 6th day of July 2005
 at Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

Signed by 
 for the Government of St. Kitts and Nevis on the 6th day of July 2005
 at Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

Signed by
 for the Government of St. Vincent and the Grenadines on the
 at

Signed by
 for the Government of The Republic of Suriname on the
 at

Signed by 
 for the Government of The Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the 6th day of July 2005
 at Gros Islet, Saint Lucia

Signed by
 for the Government of The Turks and Caicos Islands on the
 at