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ACTION AID-35

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FM AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0711
INFO AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

DECONTROLLED

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARAMARIBO 2556

STATE PASS AID/LAC

STATE FOR ARA/CAR

E.O. 12356: N/A

TAGS: EAID, NS

SUBJ: DECEMBER 5-9 MEETING OF CARIBBEAN GROUP FOR COOPERATION
IN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CGCED): TALKING POINTS ON
SURINAME

REF: STATE 297110 (NOTAL)

1. GIVEN CURRENT STAGE OF EVOLVING US-SURINAME BILATERAL,
EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT USDEL TO SIXTH CGCED MEETING NOT
GO BEYOND FOLLOWING U.S. POSITION/TALKING POINTS
APPROPRIATE TO MULTILATERAL CG FORUM.

--US WELCOMES SURINAME'S PARTICIPATION IN CARIBBEAN GROUP.
CG CAN PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN EDUCATING SURINAME INM
REQUIREMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCING FOR ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT. AND DAY-TO-DAY WORKING LEVEL CG COOPERATION
WILL ENHANCE GOS'S ABILITY TO UNDERSTAND AND ARTICULATE
ITS ECONOMIC NEEDS.

--US ELECTED TO SUSPEND OUR BILATERAL AID BECAUSE
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OF CONSIDERABLE INSTABILITY AND UNCERTAINTY WHICH
DEVELOPED IN SURINAME IN LATE 1982. USG AND GOS
HAVE BEEN DISCUSSING CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH RE-
SUMPTION OF BILATERAL AID MIGHT BE POSSIBLE.

--HISTORICALLY, US WAS INSIGNIFICANT AID DONOR TO
SURINAME WHILE NETHERLANDS ROLE WAS PARAMOUNT.
CGCED CAN ASSIST SURINAME DEFINE ITS ECONOMIC
ASPIRATIONS INTER ALIA BY ENCOURAGING GOS TO MEASURE
CONTINUING AND FUTURE IMPACT ON ITS ECONOMIC PLANNING
OF 1982 SUSPENSION OF NETHERLANDS AID AND EXTENT TO

REVIEW AUTHORITY: Leonard Kusnitz, Senior Reviewer

WHICH GOS CAN MOBILIZE AND RECHANNEL DOMESTIC SAVINGS,
MANPOWER AND OTHER ASSETS TO REPLACE GRANT AID OR
CONCESSIONAL FINANCING.

--IN NOVEMBER 1983 US CARIBBEAN BASIN INITIATIVE
DELEGATION VISITED SURINAME AT INVITATION OF PRIME
MINISTER ALIBUX. US TEAM EXPLAINED TO GOS INTERMINISTERIAL TEAM
POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF CBI'S POTENTIAL FOR ENHANCED ACCESS TO
US MARKETS AND ATTRACTIVENESS TO US INVESTMENT CAPITAL.
US TEAM ALSO EXPLAINED CRITERIA US WILL CONSIDER IN JUDGING
SURINAME'S
ELIGIBILITY FOR CBI BENEFITS SHOULD GOS ELECT TO APPLY.
MEETINGS WITH GOS, WITH LEADERS OF SURINAME TRADE UNIONS
AND CROSS SECTION OF PRIVATE BUSINESS COMMUNITY WERE
FRIENDLY, INFORMATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE. USG LOOKS
FORWARD TO FURTHER CBI DISCUSSIONS WITH GOS SHOULD
GOS DECIDE CBI PARTICIPATION IS IN SURINAME'S
ECONOMIC INTEREST. DUEMLING

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