

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONVENTION OF RIGHTS OF THE CHILD

Additional and updated information on the initial report of the Netherlands (part Netherlands Antilles)(CRC/C/61/Add4).

With reference to the contents of the letter dated 13 February, Reference number C/SO/228/1(3), from the Chairman of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, the government of the Netherlands Antilles will like to present additional and updated information based on the list of issues raised by the Pre-sessional Working Group at its 30th Session, during the period 4-8 February 2002 and which issues have been identified as likely to be raised during the consideration of the initial report CRC/C/61/Add4.

The Government of the Netherlands Antilles are very grateful to the Committee for granting the necessary additional time for preparing the underlying document. All efforts have been made to respond as accurate as possible to the issues raised in PART I, II and PART III of the list of issues presented by the Committee. The government however regrets acknowledging some deficiencies in the available of data and statistics presented, due structural limitations which exists in the collecting of information from 5 islands of the Netherlands Antilles.

The Netherlands Antilles looks forward to a constructive dialogue with the Committee during the upcoming consideration of its initial report on the Convention of the Rights of the Child.

PART I

A. Data and statistics :

1. Demographic data of population per island

Population as of 1 January	Bonaire		Curaçao		Saba		Sint Eustatius		Sint Martin	
	1997	2001	1997	2001	1997	2000	1997	2000	1997	2001
0 - 4	898	771	15 090	10940	110	132	206	198	2 696	2826
5 -10	1 227	857	13 075	12998	124	144	220	200	3 216	3517
10 -14	1 179	1116	12 622	10938	86	95	225	222	2 539	3388
15 -19	1 115	945	11 421	10082	59	78	143	163	2 106	2587
20 -24	997	889	9 011	5808	116	143	106	109	2 396	2295
Tot. 0-24yrs	5 416	4578	61 219	50766	495	463	900	892	12 953	11453
25+	8726	8667	92772	86122	945	1241	2107	1357	36420	31801
Total	14156	13245	153991	136888	1457	1704	2107	2249	36420	43254

Source: CBS, midcensus 1997, draftcensus 2000

Emigration to the Netherlands from Curaçao, (Antilleans and non-Antilleans) Divided in age	1998	1999	2000	2001 up to and including 31/07/2001
0-4		720	893	
5-9		758	867	
10-14		611	736	
15-19		993	1344	
20-24		1256	1345	
25-29		935	964	
30-34		724	844	
35-39		596	740	
40-44		481	599	
45-49		344	413	
50+		668	859	
Totaal	7093	8086	9603	3616

Source: Registrars' Office

Population of the Netherlands Antilles age per 5-year's group

	Bonaire			St. Martin			Curaçao		
	population per 1 january 2001			population per 1 january 2001			population per 1 january 2001		
	males	females	total	males	females	total	males	females	total
0-4	395	376	771	1,395	1,431	2,826	5,647	5,293	10,940
5-9	462	395	857	1,809	1,708	3,517	6,555	6,443	12,998
10-14	593	523	1,116	1,688	1,700	3,388	5,449	5,489	10,938
15-19	490	455	945	1,256	1,331	2,587	5,089	4,993	10,082
20-24	417	472	889	1,164	1,131	2,295	2,839	2,969	5,808
25-29	454	424	878	1,664	1,685	3,349	3,653	3,474	7,127
30-34	494	553	1,047	2,391	2,435	4,826	3,925	4,665	8,590
35-39	682	629	1,311	2,646	2,732	5,378	4,896	6,299	11,195
40-44	675	531	1,206	2,412	2,420	4,832	5,470	6,431	11,901
45-49	606	447	1,053	1,921	1,933	3,854	4,705	6,005	10,710
50-54	518	412	930	1,400	1,262	2,662	4,264	5,216	9,480
55-59	432	286	718	822	755	1,577	3,511	4,046	7,557
60-64	217	242	459	448	418	866	2,702	3,325	6,027
65-69	206	177	383	264	249	513	2,175	2,591	4,766
70-74	149	140	289	115	174	289	1,546	2,138	3,684
75-79	68	87	155	84	150	234	1,008	1,572	2,580
80-84	31	76	107	68	90	158	561	1,077	1,638
85+	49	82	131	45	58	103	193	674	867
totaal	6,938	6,307	13,245	21,592	21,662	43,254	64,188	72,700	136,888

	St.Eustatius			Saba		
	population per 1 january 2000			population per 1 january 2000		
	males	females	total	males	females	total
0-4	95	103	198	65	67	132
5-9	105	95	200	76	68	144
10-14	106	116	222	54	41	95
15-19	86	77	163	34	44	78
20-24	57	52	109	80	63	143
25-29	77	61	138	105	72	177
30-34	93	106	199	72	77	149
35-39	117	83	200	70	69	139
40-44	87	86	173	46	68	114
45-49	85	78	163	58	48	106
50-54	56	61	117	49	45	94
55-59	46	51	97	44	33	77
60-64	43	40	83	35	28	63
65-69	32	25	57	31	24	55
70-74	17	16	33	17	17	34
75-79	18	22	40	17	23	40
80-84	11	19	30	16	21	37
85+	12	15	27	10	17	27
totaal	1106	2249	2249	879	825	1704

Source: Central Bureau for Statistics of the Netherlands Antilles

2 a/b. Budgetary allocation and spendings for social needs, as percentages of total expenditures

Budgeted Total Expenditure (amounts x1000 Naf.) on Education for the Netherlands Antilles segregated per Island: 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Central Government	31.959	33.259	39.990	3.053	22.205
Bonaire	11.278	12.241	13.849	14.091	14.691
Curaçao	208.083	201.210	222.594	214.301	222.760
Saba	3.149	3.434	3.502	3.733	2.211
Sint Eustatius	2.162	2.194	2.189	2.248	3.887
Sint Martin	48.846	47.966	51.864	51.284	55.153
Total	305.477	300.304	333.988	316.110	320.907

Source: Department of Finance in Curaçao 2002

Budgeted Direct Expenditure (amounts x1000 Naf.) on Education for the Netherlands Antilles segregated per Island: 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Central Government	11.517	13.411	14.813	9.629	9.147
Bonaire	9.409	9.951	11.108	10.320	10.406
Curaçao	166.587	146.587	165.325	160.012	166.664
Saba	1.862	1.882	1.898	1.937	1.857
Sint Eustatius	2.939	2.961	2.961	3.186	3.333
Sint Martin	33.566	34.756	37.132	39.740	40.954
Total	225.880	209.548	233.237	224.824	232.361

Source: Department of Finance in Curaçao 2002

Budgeted Expenditure (amounts x1000 Naf) for Selected Outlays on Education for the Netherlands Antilles in 1999.

	Central Government	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	St. Eustatius	St. Martin
Kindergarten		1.113	14.711	216	233	4.551
Primary education		3.969	55.820	853	1.392	18.738
Special primary education		569	12528			1.734
Junior and Senior High School ¹		2.362	44.457			9.023
Vocational education	1.018	2.393	35.487	788 1)	1.708 1)	6.163
Pedagogical Academy			3.660			
University	8.129					
Total	9.147	10.406	166.663	1.857	3.333	

Source: Department of Finance Curaçao 2002

¹The Budget for the school for Vocational Administrative Education is included

Amounts in millions spent on salaries, preservation of buildings and subsidies by the Island Territory of Curaçao: 1999, 2000 and 2001

	1999	%TB	2000	%TB	2001	%TB
Salaries	100.599.583	6.2	95.207.623	9.3	89.008.437	9.4
Preservation of buildings	2.900.000	0.2	2.900.000	.3	2.450.000	.3
Subsidies	43.473.559	2.7	50.045.326	4.9	87.527.126	9.3
Total expenditures on education	146.973.142	9.0	148.152.949	14.5	178.985.563	19.0
Total Budget expenses(TB)	1.616.400.000		1.022.400.000		946.100.000	

Overview of the Current Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1000 Naf.), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

The Current Revenues and Expenditures consist of the operating costs of the Island Government. The expenditures and the revenues are classified in ten categories on the basis of the accountability regulations. Each of these categories covers a part of all the tasks of the Island Territory.

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	59.571	4.480	55.091-
Public Order and Security	22.398	0	22.398-
Traffic and Transport	37.258	35	37.223-
Economic Affairs	36.082	162	35.920-
Education	209.360	0	209.360-
Culture and Recreation	17.340	0	17.340-
Social Services	181.535	3.617	177.918-
Public Health	88.900	1.032	87.868-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	22.103	15.681	6.422-
Regular Financing	331.252	933.121	601.869
Total	1.005.799	958.128	47.671-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

Current Revenues and Expenditures: Categories in percentages of the total Expenditure, Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

General Governance	5.9 %
Public Order and Security	2.2 %
Traffic and Transport	3.7 %
Economic Affairs	3.6 %
Education	20.8 %
Culture and Recreation	1.7 %
Social Services	18.1 %
Public Health	8.8 %
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	2.2 %
Regular Financing	33.0 %
Total	100 %

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

Overview of the Capital Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1.000 Naf.), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	50	0	50-
Public Order and Security	189	0	189-
Traffic and Transport	0	0	0-
Economic Affairs	900	0	900-
Education	13.400	0	13.400-
Culture and Recreation	0	0	0-
Social Services	5	0	5-
Public Health	3.561	0	3.561-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	4.170	9.000	4.830
Regular Financing	133.282	127.727	5.555-
Total	155.557	136.727	18.830-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

Expenditure (in millions), Island Territory Curaçao, 1999

Wages and salaries	360.6
Goods and services	250.0
Subsidies public companies	64.6
Transfers	38.7
Student grants contributions	11.1
Subsidies non-profit institutions	39.0
Interest payments	102.9
Capital expenditure	26.7
Total	893.6

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 1999

**Overview of the Current Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1000 Naf.),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000**

The Current Revenues and Expenditures consist of the operating costs of the Island Government. The expenditures and the revenues are classified in ten categories on the basis of the accountability regulations. Each of these categories covers a part of all the tasks of the Island Territory.

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	59.954	4.399	55.555-
Public Order and Security	16.940	12	16.928-
Traffic and Transport	34.548	35	34.513-
Economic Affairs	40.173	162	40.010-
Education	208.764	9	208.755-
Culture and Recreation	19.055	0	19.055-
Social Services	179.786	2.717	177.069-
Public Health	81.594	1.047	80.547-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	19.982	9.581	10.401-
Regular Financing	232.816	771.710	538.894
Total	893.612	789.672	103.904-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000

**Current Revenues and Expenditures: Categories in percentages of the total
Expenditure, Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000**

General Governance	6.7 %
Public Order and Security	1.9 %
Traffic and Transport	3.9 %
Economic Affairs	4.5 %
Education	23.3 %
Culture and Recreation	2.1 %
Social Services	20.1 %
Public Health	9.1 %
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	2.2 %
Regular Financing	26.2 %
Total	100 %

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000

**Overview of the Capital Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1.000 Naf.),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000**

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	606	0	606-
Public Order and Security	2.061	0	2.061-
Traffic and Transport	161	0	161-
Economic Affairs	1.239	0	1.239-
Education	15.581	0	15.581-
Culture and Recreation	78	0	78-
Social Services	162	0	162-
Public Health	4.441	0	4.441-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	4.176	3.650	526-
Regular Financing	100.287	94.768	5.519-
Total	128.792	98.418	30.374-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000

Expenditure (in millions), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2000

Wages and salaries	370.2
Goods and services	254.1
Subsidies public companies	61.2
Transfers	40.3
Student grants contributions	13.0
Subsidies non-profit institutions	52.6
Interest payments	101.5
Capital expenditure	22.5
Total	915.4

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2002

**Overview of the Current Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1000 Naf.),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001**

The Current Revenues and Expenditures consist of the operating costs of the Island Government. The expenditures and the revenues are classified in ten categories on the basis of the accountability regulations. Each of these categories covers a part of all the tasks of the Island Territory.

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	48.716	7.262	41.454-
Public Order and Security	13.116	125	12.991-
Traffic and Transport	39.815	35	39.780-
Economic Affairs	33.006	249	32.757-
Education	186.639	9	186.630-
Culture and Recreation	17.648	17.648-	
Social Services	184.361	3.026	181.335-
Public Health	60.579	999	59.580-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	16.837	7.703	9.134-
Regular Financing	219.087	788.179	569.092
Total	819.804	807.587	12.217-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2002

**Current Revenues and Expenditures: Categories in percentages of the total
Expenditure, Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001**

General Governance	5.9 %
Public Order and Security	1.6 %
Traffic and Transport	4.9 %
Economic Affairs	4.1 %
Education	-22.8 %
Culture and Recreation	2.2 %
Social Services	-22.5 %
Public Health	7.4 %
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	2.1 %
Regular Financing	-26.5 %
Total	100 %

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001

**Overview of the Capital Revenues and Expenditures (amounts x 1000 Naf.),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001**

	Expenditures	Revenues	Balance
General Governance	900	0	900-
Public Order and Security	25	0	25-
Traffic and Transport	10	0	10-
Economic Affairs	900	0	900-
Education	14.298	0	14.298-
Culture and Recreation	25	0	25-
Social Services	78	0	78-
Public Health	2.915	0	2.915-
Environmental Planning and Public Housing	4.863	4.500	363-
Regular Financing	102.259	105.591	3.032
Total	126.273	109.791	16.482-

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001

Expenditure (in millions), Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001

Wages and salaries	266.5
Goods and services	229.2
Subsidies public companies	59.4
Transfers	168.6
Interest payments	101.4
Capital expenditure	16.5
Payment on loans	76.9
Foreign amortization	21.7
Total	1.053.8

Source: Budget at a single glance (Begroting in één Oogopslag (BIEO),
Island Territory of Curaçao, 2001

Budgetary allocation (amounts x 1000 Naf.) on education and health for the island of St. Martin over 1999 and 2000:

	1999			2000			2001		
EDUCATION:	BUDGETTED	ACTUAL		BUDGETTED	ACTUAL		BUDGETTED	ACTUAL	
Prim. Educ./salaries	12.376.417	11.053.595		10.546.842	10.505.639		7.601.760	8.078.474	
Subsidies	27.342.673	27.291.717		29.438.897	27.294.568,00		28.913.100	25.938.866	
HEALTH CARE									
Primary Healthcare	8.982.000	12.585.086		9.382.000	14.510.101		13.400.000	13.187.058	
CHILDREN W/DISABILITIES	1.580.400	1.557.934		1.640.000	1.676.321,00		1.640.000	1.624.320.	
Total	50.281.490	52.488.332		51.007.739	53.986.629		51.554.860	48.828.718	
Total Year Budget Expense		167.571.910	31.32%		178.714.525	30.21%		156.011.259	31.30%

Source: Department of Finance St.Martin

**Budgeted expenditures for Education and Health on the Island of Saba:
1999, 2000 and 2001**

	EDUCATION	Salaries	Housing costs	Other costs	Total
1999	Junior Sec. Vocational Education	156.526	7.193	52.588	216.307
	Special Primary Education	773.964	49.223	29.700	852.887
	Special Secondary Education	713.310	35.030	39.798	788.138
	Common Educational Expenditures			149.159	149.159
	Transport Costs Schoolbuses	183.207		21.180	
2000	Junior Sec. Vocational Education	156.526	4.253	52.588	213.367
	Special Primary Education	773.964	39.173	29.700	842.837
	Special Secondary Education	728.310	24.980	19.798	773.088
	Common Education Expenditures			499.159	499.159
	Transport Costs Schoolbuses	183.207		21.180	204.387
2001	Junior Sec. Vocational Educational	156.526	5.959	4.588	167.073
	Special Primary Education	817.764	60.749	29.700	908.213
	Special Secondary Education	728.310	40.140	19.798	788.248
	Common Educational Expenditures			2.054.959	2.054.959
	Transport Costs Schoolbuses	183,207.00		21.180	204.387
	HEALTH				
1999	Hospital			172.000	172.000
2000	Hospital			172.000	172.000
2001	Hospital			172.000	172.000

Department of Finance: Saba 2002

c. Child Protection

On the islands of the Netherlands Antilles Guardianship Councils (Council) are in place. The Councils are engaged in the following activities:

- In cases where a child is without a legal guardian, the Council brings this to the attention of the Court of Justice. The Council will advice about who will best fulfill the requirements of a legal guardian in a particular case;
- In cases where a child is threatened or abused whether mentally, sexually or physically, these cases will also be brought to the attention of the Court of Justice and suggested measures will be taken. These protection measures can vary from having the child put under supervision of the judge or suspending of the guardianship of a legal guardian. Provisions are then made for foster- or institutional care;
- In cases where the child does not receive alimony, the Council acts as a mediator for fulfilling his or her duty of paying alimony. In those cases where a judgement has been passed, the Council is authorized to execute this decision by putting the salary of the defaulter under embargo;
- When a party wishes to adopt a child, the Council will have an advisory role;
- In cases where parents have divorced, again the Council will have an advisory role as to which parent is seen fit to take care of the child or children.

When a child is found guilty of a punishable act and is placed in custody, the Council will also be engaged in:

- a. visiting the minor and determining if immediate help is needed.
- b. reporting to the judge and to the prosecutor in a so-called basic report.
- c. advising in alternative forms of punishment .

If an alternative punishment is imposed, reporting to the judge with respect to improvements, compliance and failures of the minor when excecuting alternative forms of punishment.

The Guardianship Council in some cases give recommendations the judge to place a minor under “supervision of the judge” in an institution. These institutions receive a daily fee, which varies from one institution to the other, according to their services granted. Foster care families also receive a daily fee.

The following data reflects the total budgetary allocation and spending on child protection, by the Central government, for a total of 9 governmental agencies on the 5 islands:

1999:	Total budget:	= Naf. 586.296.524	
	Total budget for Child protection:	= Naf. 11.391.433	= 1,94 %
2000:	Total budget:	= Naf. 953.275.500	
	Total budget for Child protection:	= Naf. 10.805.100	= 1,13 %
2001:	Total budget:	= Naf. 913.706.000	
	Total budget for Child protection:	= Naf. 10.804.800	= 1,18 %
2002:	Total budget:	= Naf. 915.439.221	
	Total budget for Child protection:	= Naf. 9.233.714	= 1,01 %

Data from Guardianship Council of Curaçao

	1995	1996	1997
Alimentation/Alimony			
Processes concerning sustainment during matrimony	6	1	-
Processes concerning alimony after divorce	1	-	-
Processes concerning alimentation for recognized illegitimate children	5	8	.
Processes concerning alimentation for non-recognized illegitimate children	8	7	-
Voluntary deduction of alimentation/alimony from wages	149	156	171
Distress on wages	139	132	133
Claims against employers	1	1	-
Claims for permission to execute judicial decisions concerning alimentation/alimony by imprisonment for debt	2	1	-
Execution of imprisonment for debt	-	-	1
Prosecution under article 272 bis of Penal Code	-	-	-
Junction in case of a petition in bankruptcy	-	-	-
Terminated deduction of alimentation/alimony	70	56	51
Lowering of deduction of alimentation/alimony	63	59	50
Parental control/guardianship			
Exoneration from parental control	2	-	-
Deprivation of parental control	1	-	4
Provision for guardianship	6	10	22
Provision for co-guardianship	46	18	24
Provision for guardianship and co-guardianship	155	137	248
Provision for temporary guardianship	19	6	231
Provision for temporary and co-guardianship	27	17	12
Discharge from guardianship	7	5	76
Discharge from co-guardianship	1	-	2
Discharge from guardianship and co-guardianship	8	2	24
Exoneration from guardianship	27	11	8
Deprivation of guardianship	1	1	9
Deprivation of guardianship and co-guardianship	-	-	1
Petitions for placing of minors under supervision	26	24	28
Guardianandcoguardianship after death			31
Co-guardianship after death			22
Gaurdianandco-guardianship after divorce			24
Guardianship after death			2
Guardian and co-guardianship			11
Reports/Advices			
Reports on minors placed/to be placed under supervision	144	153	130
ReportstoCourtof first instance concerning alimony and/or provision for (co-) guardianship	72	74	36
Reports concerning modification of judicial decision on guardianship	4	4	3
Reports and advices to Court of Appeal	-	1	1
Reports and advices concerning adoption	21	6	8
Reports on family allowance	2	5	3
Process-server notices	13	13	-
Cash receipts (x 1000 Naf.) on behalf of care and education of minors	5004	5447	5817

Source: Guardianship Council of Curaçao

d. Support to families of children in need of special care

I. **Social Securities (x 1000 Naf.)**

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
General Old Age Insurance					
- premium received	156857	170362	177675	171923	166755
- amount paid	137475	146163	154565	161376	165414
General Widow's and Orphans Insurance					
- premium received	15686	17036	18365	17192	16676
- amount paid	10160	10847	11625	12050	12018
Accident Insurance					
- premium received	21664	22906	20524	20747	19501
- amount paid	3895	4484	3867	3887	3264
of which sickness benefits	3776	3915	3309	3821	3206
medical costs	119	569	558	66	58
Illness Insurance					
- premium received	101415	123266	114656	115865	115614
- amount paid	82079	107222	102597	121494	122741
of which sickness benefits	19206	18216	16937	17727	16407
medical cost	62874	89006	85660	103767	106334

Source: Social Security Bank (SVB)

II. **Minimum Wages per month in Naf., from February 1st 1996, till August 1st, 2001**

	category 1:	category 2:	category 3:	category 4: Domestic Servants	
	Manufacturing	Service	Trade	Monthly	Hourly
Bonaire	1039.29	927.65	927.65	444.40	3.89
Curaçao	1000.00	900.00	900.00	420.00	3.68
Saba	1000.00	800.00	800.00	550.00	4.81
St. Eustatius	950.00	700.00	700.00	522.72	4.57
St. Martin	1100.00	1100.00	1100.00	500.40	5.75

Source: Department of Labour and Social Affairs

III. **Minimum Wages per hour in Naf.¹⁾, per August 1st, 2001**

	category 1: Manufacturing	category 2: Service	category 3: Trade	category 4: Domestic Servants
Bonaire	6.00	5.36	5.36	4.30
Curaçao	5.77	5.20	5.20	4.16
Saba	5.77	4.62	4.62	4.91
St. Eustatius	5.49	4.04	4.04	4.75
St. Martin	6.35	6.35	6.35	5.34

Source: Department of Labour and Social Affairs

1) Valid for workers of 21 years and older. For the age group of 16 – 20 years a youth minimum wage is applicable for each specific age: 16/17: 65%; age 18: 75%; age 19: 85% and age 20: 90% of the indicated minimum wage.

IV. Welfare Benefits ("Onderstand") in Curaçao

	Number of persons	Total amount paid
	December	x 1000 Naf.
1990	12678	50272
1991	12732	55145
1992	12261	48218
1993	10784	43553
1994	10573	43236
1995	9989	39366
1996	9300	37704
1997	8649	34425
1998	8848	32687
1999	8484	32541
2000	8288	31837

Source: Social Affairs Service Curaçao

V. Maximum Welfare Benefits per Month in Curaçao

	Married couple	Concubinage	Single	Children
1983-1990	412.80	412.80	242.80	32.00
1991	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1992	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1993	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1994	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1995	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1996	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1997	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1998	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
1999	487.50	487.50	281.67	32.00
2000	511.88	511.88	295.75	36.40

Source: Social Affairs Service Curaçao

VI. Number of Persons Receiving Free Medical Assistance ("PP Cards").

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Curaçao	32266	29968	27631	33578	27784	29900

Source: Social Affairs Service Curaçao

VII. Welfare Benefits and Free Medical Assistance in Bonaire, Saba, St. Eustatius and St. Martin, 2000

	Bonaire	Saba	St. Eustatius	St. Martin
Number of persons receiving welfare benefits	300	42	20	813
Total amount paid (x1000 Naf.)	1030	66	40	4302
Minimum Welfare benefit (Naf.) 1)	260	54	87	.
Maximum Welfare benefit (Naf.) 1)	758	433	325	.
Number of persons receiving free medical assistance	.	100	273	409

Source: Social Affairs Services of the Islands
1) per month

VIII. Number of Requests for Free Legal Assistance, Curaçao

	1997	1998	1999	2000
Divorce	221	214	168	174
Labour conflict	107	161	72	76
Other civil cases	151	165	76	101
Criminal cases	446	728	586	535
Total	925	1268	902	886

IX. Number of Requests for Free Legal Assistance, Bonaire

	1997	1998	1999	2000
Divorce	32	48	45	38
Labour conflict	37	43	25	14
Other civil cases	84	73	60	68
Criminal cases	131	82	.	.
Total	284	246	130	120

X. Number of Requests for Free Legal Assistance, Windward Islands

	1997	1998	1999	2000
Divorce	41	47	55	39
Labour conflict	92	91	112	83
Other civil cases	51	93	85	88
Criminal cases	196	239	157	176
Total	380	470	409	386

Source: Department of Labour and Social Affairs

e. **Juvenile crime prevention**

In this respect reference is made to Part III of this document under I (“educational reform”), II (“update on social development and security policy”) and III (“Introduction of an Urgency Programme for the Youth”).

The Crime Fund, as it is generally called, was created by decree on the 16th of november 1995 (Publication Bulletin 1996, no.1). The objectives of the Fund is to put “confiscated financial means” to the use for crime prevention. Crime prevention can be defined as those processes that enables the government to insure a secure community, beginning with crime prevention and ending with care for delinquents when returning to community. The government has given priority to crime prevention with special attention for juvenile crime.

Governmental as well as community projects are financed by the Fund. There is a requirement that these projects forementioned must focus on aspects such as: safe community, community policing, juvenile protection programmes, resocialization of juvenile delinquents, and detention care.

Each year the government reserves a sum of Naf. 1.000.000,- Antillean guilders for furnishing the Fund. Additional funds can be received from the private sector.

f. **Children with disabilities**

As a part of the 2001 census, a survey was excuted to determine the exact number of children with disabilities. Reliable results will be made available later this year. However in relation to this somewhat poorly developed policy area, the Directorate for Health presented earlier this year a proposal to establish a National Council for disabled persons. Through this mechanism new venues will be opened in this field such as : empowerment of NGO's on the different islands; raising of awareness; creating of a national qualitative monitor; and including disabled persons in the national and local policy agenda. Other important issues that will receive additional attention will be e.g.: daycare; access to (long-term) jobs, education, political and policy participation; and unlocking the local fields to international cooperation.

g. **Disbursement from Netherland for health, education and other social services in the Netherlands Antilles**

Development Cooperation

The Netherlands Antilles, Aruba and the Netherlands are the three autonomous parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. In accordance with Article 36 of the 1954 Charter of the Kingdom, the three countries extend aid and assistance to each other on the basis of equality. This provides the legal framework for the current-day relationship of development cooperation between the Netherlands and the Netherlands Antilles.

Dutch development aid to the Netherlands Antilles is not earmarked as an Official Development Assistance (ODA), as the average GDP per capita of the Netherlands Antilles exceeds the ceiling maintained by the OECD.

Funds are allocated to projects fitting in the programmes. The cooperation consists of a technical and a financial component. All aid is in the form of grants since the late 80's.

General procedures and conditions for the development cooperation are laid down in the protocol of 1987. In the course of the years various agreements have been signed on specific issues and fields of cooperation. At present the focal areas of development cooperation between the Netherlands Antilles and the Netherlands are Good Governance, Sustainable Economic Development, Education and Law Enforcement and Order. Development cooperation with the Netherlands has been subject to a renewal process for the purpose of aid-effectiveness and increased self-sufficiency of the Netherlands Antillean Islands. In this process the aim is to establish a relationship in the field of development cooperation which is programme-based instead of project-based.

A system of cooperation programmes is being introduced for the following focal sectors:

- sustainable economic development, which comprises an environmental component
(35 million EUR available for 2002)
- public sector/good governance (17.5 million EUR available for 2002)
- formal education (17.5 million EUR available for 2002)

Annually, 15 million EUR (for the NA and Aruba) is set aside for law enforcement, based on the obligation of the Kingdom as a whole – as laid down in the Charter - to guarantee the quality thereof. In addition, approximately 9 million EUR per annum is channeled separately to projects of non-governmental organizations in the social sector. A new NGO-oriented and programme-based financing structure is being developed and will be in place in the course of 2002. A temporary provision has been made for financing an Urgency Programme for the Youth (appr. 7 million EUR for 2002) and for the health sector (5 million ANG for 2002)².

² The Dutch budgetary resources are also allocated to other categories for specific or incidental matters (for instance disaster related aid, expansion of the prison, Solidarity Fund for the smallest islands, etc.).

The following table present insight in the amount (in millions) of funds agreed upon and approved by the Netherlands to the Netherlands Antilles on a yearly basis during 1995 –2001, segregated per island.

Claims that have been paid (in million Naf.) for:

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Central Government	12.7	14.7	19.2	23.1	21.6	7.6	11.9
Bonaire	8.2	1.4	1.1	3.7	11.5	5.0	1.0
Curaçao	45.4	45.2	37.4	43.2	25.0	13.6	9.6
St. Martin	5.2	44.5	35.0	25.9	18.3	0.9	1.8
St. Eustatius	2.2	1.4	1.7	2.2	2.0	1.7	0.7
Saba	3.1	2.1	6.3	4.9	2.3	11.3	3.6
Fund for Social Development	0.0	0.0	11.6	8.4	15.0	10.0	7.7
Urgency Programme for the Youth	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.0
Total governmental Projects	76.8	109.3	112.3	111.4	95.7	50.1	43.3
Fund for Social Renewal	1.4	0.9	1.3	0.4	0.1	0.0	0.0
Projects for Prison*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	21.4	26.4
Reconstructions after hurricane Lenny*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.6	6.5
Total	78.2	110.2	113.6	111.8	95.8	73.1	76.2

Amounts approved (in millions Naf.) to:

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Central Government	10.7	18.0	33.1	44.9	0.0	1.8	18.4
Bonaire	6.8	6.8	7.7	14.1	0.0	0.0	9.6
Curaçao	27.9	16.8	31.9	28.7	0.0	17.1	26.7
St. Martin	16.5	50.2	54.0	32.3	0.0	0.1	0.0
St. Eustatius	2.5	0.1	2.6	3.6	0.0	0.0	2.4
Saba	2.8	5.9	9.1	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.7
Fund for Social Development	0.0	0.0	20.0	25.0	0.0	0.0	10.5
Urgency Programme for the Youth	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.8
Emergencyplan for Marketing Tourism	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.6
Total governmental Projects	67.2	97.8	158.4	149.0	0.0	19.0	87.7
Fund for Social Renewal	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Projects for Prison*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	53.0	1.1
Reconstruction after hurricane Lenny*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8.5	9.7
Total	67.2	97.8	158.4	149.0	0.0	80.5	98.5

Relation between approvals and spendings

	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
approved	67.2	97.8	158.4	149.0	0.0	80.5	98.5
spendings	78.2	110.2	113.6	111.8	95.8	73.1	76.2
differences	-11.0	-12.4	44.8	37.2	-95.8	7.4	22.3

It addition it should be informed that due to transition from project to programme-financing, an evaluation and categorization of the different types of cooperation-programmes (Education, Sustainable Economic Development and Public Sector/Good Governance) is taking place. Due to this, a final summary is not yet available.

* These projects do not form part of the normal allocation

3. Available information on children with disabilities

Research done in 1992 produced the following number of children with disabilities:

Type off disability	Curacao	Bonaire	Saba	St. Eustatius	St. Martin	Total (N.A.)
Visual	53	6	0	0	14	73
Auditative	69	5	0	0	7	81
Physical	164	13	0	2	16	195
Intellectual	128	17	0	1	14	160
Total	414	41	0	3	51	509

Source: Directorate for Social Welfare and Development

Reference is also made to what has been mentioned in Part I under A. 1.f).

4.a-d Available data on foster families, institutions and adoption

a.

Percentages of children placed through intervention of the Child Protection Agency in the Netherlands Antilles in 2002	
age	%
0 – 1	3
2 – 4	9
5 – 6	13
7 – 8	10
9 – 10	15
11 – 12	18
Total	68

Source: Guardianship Council Curaçao

b.

Facility	Amount*
in foster families Curaçao/Bonaire/St.Martin	69
in institutions Neth. Antilles	221

Source: Guardianship Council Curaçao

*Amounts are exclusive prison population and those placed in institutions for the disabled children. Furthermore it should be remarked that on the island of St.Eustatius and Saba children who need a fosterhome oftentimes go to stay with with family-members. Children from St.Martin on the otherhand are often placed in homes on the island of Curaçao.

c. Institutions where minors are placed at the moment (2002) under supervision of the judge in Curaçao, Bonaire and Sint Martin:

	Name institution:	Amount	Island	Boys/Girls:	Age:	Remarks:
1.	G.O.G Glenn Mills	35	Curaçao	Boys & Girls	10-18 yrs	Behavioural problems/ No drugs abuse
2.	Kara pa Solo	7	Curaçao	Girls	10-18 yrs	Behavioural Problems No drugs abuse
3.	Huize St. Jozef	60	Curaçao	Boys & Girls	4-12 yrs	Social Problems No drugs abuse
4.	Rose Pelletier	18	Curaçao	Girls	from 12 yrs untill they have finished their secondary school	Social Problems They have to attend a secondary school No drugs abuse
5.	Kas Bruder Pius	18	Curaçao	Girls/babies	teen-mothers	Pregnant/baby No drugs abuse
6.	Kinderorden Brakkeput	37	Curaçao	Boys	8 - 12 yrs untill the age of 18 yrs.	Social Problems No drugs abuse
7.	Casa Manita	25	Curaçao	Boys/Girls	4 – 15 years	Social Problems No drugs abuse
8.	Stichting Bruder Pius Villa Candidius	13	Bonaire	Boys	4-16 yrs	Social Problems No drugs abuse
9.	I can do Foundation	8	St.Martin	Boys & Girls	1-13 yrs	Social Problems No drugs abuse
10	Prison Bon Futuro	21	Curaçao	Boys & Girls	14-17yrs	Cases/ sentenced

Source: Guardianship Council Curaçao

d. The number of intra country adoptions (from mainly Surinam and Colombia) in the period 1999 - 2001 amounts to an average of 10 (ten) per year.

5. a-e The following statistical information on education contains data regarding:

- the participants in the different levels of education namely the students/pupils
- the material means (schools/institutions)
- the human resources
- the amount of students that have received a certificate
- the costs for educational services

The figures presented regard only full time regular education. That is, the regular education programme in which pupils/ students take a fixed amount of lessons at a day school or institution during one week, for a complete academic year.

This system provides an opportunity for children and young people to progress from kindergarten (4 up to 6 years) and primary school (6 up to 12 year), to higher levels of education.

The first Table A. gives an overview of the possibilities for people of the different islands to educate themselves. The supply of material facilities and human resources, as well as the participation of the pupils/students in the different levels of education are presented.

Should an educational facility not exist on one island, students may enroll in the education programme on one of the other islands.

Tables B, C and D give information on the amount of students that leave high school, vocational education and the University with a certificate.

Table: Full-time, General, Vocational and Special Education , Neth. Antilles.

Academic year:	2000-2001				
	Schools	Pupils			Teachers
		Male	Female	Total	
Bonaire					
Kindergarten	4	247	216	463	23
Primary Education	5	724	752	1476	63
Special Primary Education	1	35	15	50	8
Basic Secondary Education (SGB 1,2)	1	187	198	385	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO 3,4)	1	151	91	242	
Junior High School (MAVO 3,4)	1	60	86	146	
Senior High School (HAVO 3,4,5)	1	48	75	123	
Secondary Education (SGB: total teachers)					82
Curaçao					
Kindergarten	52	2664	2535	5199	235
Primary Education	58	8247	8183	16430	729
Special Primary Education	17	922	406	1328	147
Basic Sec. Education (BVO,LTO 1,2)	13	1494	859	2353	
Basic Sec. Education (MAVO 1,2)	14	885	1172	2057	
Basic Sec. Education (HAVO 1,2)	4	309	396	705	
Special Sec. Education (VSO,PBO, 1,2,3,4)	4	405	263	668	
Junior Sec. Vocational Educ. (BVO,LTO 3,4)	13	822	773	1595	
Junior High School (MAVO 3,4)	14	848	1275	2123	
Senior High School (HAVO/VWO 3,4,5,6)	3	852	1336	2188	
Secondary Education (total teachers)					859
Senior Sec. Voc. Educ.(MBO, MTS, MAO,KABO)	6	643	804	1447	
Teachers Training College (APK)	1	7	126	133	22
University of the Neth. Ant.					
Faculty of Law	1	66	138	204	15
Faculty of Social & Econ. Studies	1	73	193	266	40
Technical Faculty	1	165	49	214	33
Saba					
Kindergarten	3	16	20	36	3
Primary Education	1	78	71	149	11
Basic Secondary Education (SCS 1,2)	1	16	18	34	
English Language Sec. School (CXC 3,4)	1	16	14	30	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO 3,4)	1	4	-	4	
Secondary Education (SCS: total teachers)					11
St. Eustatius					
Kindergarten	3	48	45	93	7
Primary education	3	154	123	277	17
Basic Secondary Education (GPS 1,2)	1	44	44	88	
Junior High School (MAVO 3,4)	1	9	23	32	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO 3,4)	1	23	13	36	
Secondary Education (GPS: total teachers)					18
St. Martin					
Kindergarten	16	509	511	1020	48
Primary Education	16	1891	1917	3808	202
Special Primary Education	1	86	34	120	23
Basic Sec. Education (BVO 1,2)	3	240	202	442	
Basic Sec. Education (MAVO,CXC 1,2)	3	274	349	623	
Basic Sec. Education (HAVO 1,2)	1	44	67	111	
Special Sec. Education (SMVTS)	1	119	52	171	
Junior Sec. Vocational Educ. (BVO,LTO 3,4)	3	201	167	368	
Junior High School (MAVO 3,4)	1	50	114	164	
Senior High School (HAVO/VWO 3,4,5,6)	1	86	137	223	
English Language Sec. School (CXC 3,4,5)	2	144	203	347	
Secondary Education (all levels)					195
Senior Sec. Voc. Educ.(MTS)	1	9	9	18	
University of St. Maarten 1)	1	28	83	111	43

Source: The Island Departments of Education, the Central Department of Education Schoolboards and Schools.

Note: Education not subsidized by the Governments is not mentioned here.

The figures referring to "teachers" are not always comparable due to differences in used definitions.

SGB, SCS and GPS are schoolcommunities in respectively Bonaire and Statia.

1) Degree Students per first semester

Table: High School Leaving Certificates (full-time education)

	2000/2001
Bonaire	
Junior High School (MAVO)	25
Senior High School (HAVO)	30
Curaçao	
Junior High School (MAVO)	651
Senior High School (HAVO)	309
Senior High School (VWO)	128
Saba	
English Language Sec. School(CXC)	.
St. Eustatius	
Junior High School (MAVO)	15
St. Martin	
Junior High School (MAVO)	41
Senior High School (HAVO)	32
Senior High School (VWO)	18
English Language Sec. School(CXC)	88

Source: Education Services of the Islands and the Department of Education

Table: Vocational Education Leaving Certificates

	2000/2001
Bonaire	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO,AVMB)	82
Curaçao	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO,LTO)	594
Senior Sec. Vocational Educ. (MBO,MAO,KABO,MTS,IFE)	274
Teachers Training College (APK)	28
Saba	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO)	.
St. Eustatius	
Junior Sec. Vocational Education (BVO)	7
St. Martin	
University of St. Maarten(AA-degree)	23

Source: Education Services of the Islands and the Department of Education

1) or "Pedagogical Academy" (APK). Including education of teachers for Kindergarten and Primary School

2) Not subsidized.Including MBO and KHBO

Table: University of the Netherlands Antilles Leaving Certificates

	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000
Faculty of Law	12	6	13	12	14
Male	9	3	6	6	1
Female	3	3	7	6	13
Faculty of Social and Economic Studies	20	23	37	30	29
Male	8	6	12	8	8
Female	12	17	25	22	21
Technical Faculty	8	14	12	17	20
Male	8	12	11	13	18
Female	0	2	1	4	2
Total	40	43	62	59	63
Male	25	21	29	27	27
Female	15	22	33	32	36

6.a-g Available data on juvenile delinquents from Court of Justice, Juvenile and Vice Police, Immigration, Department of Justice and Directorate for Youth affairs:

Information on Minors who have been sentenced in 1998 and 1999

Specification of facts	1998	1999
Theft	16	13
Theft under aggravating circumstances	32	25
Accessory to theft with assault and battery	2	3
Theft with assault and battery	13	13
Attempted theft with violence	-	6
Attempted theft under aggravating circumstances	4	-
Accessory to theft under aggravating circumstances	5	6
Accessory to theft	0	2
Incitement of theft with violence	0	7
Car theft	0	2
Drugs/Drugsrelated	10	14
Fire arm	3	5
Illtreatment	0	3
Illtreatment with a weapon	2	14
Illtreatment with a weapon with serious bodily harm	1	5
serious maltreatment	0	2
Illtreatment with a weapon and murder as a consequence	0	1
Attempted murder	3	7
Murder	0	1
Rape	-	1
Embezzlement (fencing)	6	5
Vandalism	1	1
Assault and battery	25	2
Embezzlement in employment	1	1
Insurance fraud	1	1
Attempted fraud	1	6
Forgery	1	1
Reef management ordinance	2	0
Total	106	134

Source: Joint Court of Justice of the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba

In 1998, 69 cases were tried covering 106 criminal offences, while in 1999 there were 112 cases tried covering 134 criminal offences.

The number of young persons presently in detention is 116 (112 males and 14 females) between the ages of 16-24 yrs. This group consists of 16 recidivists (one girl) and 100 first offenders.

Year	Civil Cases	Charges	Temporary Detention
1999	3	0	2
2000	8	1	6
2001	8	3	2
2002	4	0	0

Source:G.O.G./Glenn Mills

Crime Reports from Youth and Vice Police Curaçao (up to and including 17 years) based on the following offences	1992	1997	1999	2000	2001 up to and including nov
(attempt) to murder, manslaughter	5	3	1	1	
(attempt) illtreatment with a weapon	31	17	27	28	
illtreatment	17	14			
theft /school theft	465	341	272	131	
theft with violence	8	12			
Simple theft	30	24			
destruction	37	17			
embezzlement	-	1			
threatening	16	11			
fencing	-	1			
(attempt) to arson	3	-			
forgery	-	2			
Acts of indecency/rape	88	68	75	93	
Other crimes			49	29	
Other articles of the Penal Code	18	12			
Other Ordinances	-	7			
Total	718	530	424	282	127

Taken into custody in Curaçao	1999	2000
Number of minors younger than 18 years	33	10
Number of adults	24	28
Total Youth and Vice-Police	57	38

Source: Youth and Vice-Police

Youth taken into custody on Curaçao on the basis of an offence against the Opium Ordinance Official Bulletin 1960 no. 65 (16 - 24 years) Source: Bureau of Narcotics	2000		2001		Up to and including Femal	2001 total
	Male	Fem.	Male	Fem.		
January	15	0	9	7		
February	9	0	12	6		
March	7	0	13	13		
April	13	5	24	5		
May	16	5	13	5		
June	10	6	5	2		
July	11	2	3	3		
August	12	2	10	3		
September	23	1	2	2		
October	6	1	7	1		
November	8	6	4	2		
December	7	6	1	1		
Total	137	34	103	50		153
Figures from Customs June up to and including December 2001 ³						77
						230
Customs Office Airport total						
Arrested drugs couriers						580
Of which young people of 16 – 24 years						206

Crimes by young people in St. Martin	1994	1995	1997	2000	2001
Number of young people who have committed a criminal offence/infringement younger than 18 years	50	35	29	26	49
Number of young people 18 to 24 years				109	64
Total				135	113
Of which Opium Ordinance Official Bulletin 1960 nr. 65				20	14

Sources: Geerts, Rene W.M. Jongeren en criminaliteit, ontwikkeling en aanpak, een onderzoek in opdracht van het Departement van Justitie N.A. 1998 en Justitiële Dienst Korps Politie St. Maarten, Saba en St. Eustatius (young people and crimes, development and handling, a research requested by the Department of Justice Netherlands Antilles 1998 and Justice Service Police Force St.Maarten, Saba and St.Eustatius

Clients from Resocialition Division Curaçao	2001
Crimes	509
Of which drugs related	321
Of which young people between 18 to 26 years	192
Of which coming from Curaçao	163
Of which between 18 to 24 years	144

³ As of June 2001 at Hato Airport arrested drugs couriers are no longer registered at the Bureau for Narcotics

Data on the number of children held in pre-trial detention

In year 2000 for the island of Curacao:
69 (52 male and 17 female) all under 21 years old

In year 2001 for the island of Curacao:
19 (17 male and 2 female) all under 18 years old.

The average duration of such detention is maximum 4 days, this can be prolonged for another 6 days after which by court order the juvenile can be sent to secured custody for a certain amount of days.

General description of the current inmate population of the prison

Category inmates	Female ages			Male ages			
	16-17 yrs	18-24 yrs	> 24 yrs	14 yrs	16-17 yrs	18-24yrs	>24yrs
	2	27	39	1	18	122	340
On remand	62			354			
Convicted	6			127			

Source: Bon Futuro Prison

In the Netherlands Antilles no children under the age of 12 years, who have allegedly committed a crime reported by the police are being held in institutions.

Some figures on the current situation of youth development.

Youth situation (in %)	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	St. Eustatius	St. Martin
<i>Micro-level: child and family characteristics:</i>					
• % 13-15 years old in primary school	30.9	26.2	12.8	19	20.5
• % Participation of 6-14 year old in education	99.9	99.5	100	100	96
• % Participation of 15-19 years old in education	28.3	72.5	62.7	74.8	61.8
• % Dropout rate 15-24 years old	39.7	42.2	25.8	46.7	45.2
• % Single-parent families	16	24	18	25.5	32
▪ % not ready for school at the age of 6 (2001)		12			
• Proportion of marriages: divorces 1997	7:1 9.7	5:3 7	9:2 6.2	7:2 3.4	8:1 8.7
• % 15-19 years old mothers	4.7	4	4.4	2	1.6
• % Population with disabilities	58	219	-	-	15
• number of children placed under supervision in 1999					
<i>Meso-level: social factors:</i>					
• % (very) poor quality of homes	6	8	6.7	13	33
• % youth in problematic neighborhoods		22.4			35.6
<i>Macro-level: security of livelihood:</i>					
• Average level of household income			Naf. 1998,-	Naf. 2083,-	
• % employment rate in 2000	5.7%	Naf. 2770,-	5.9%('97)	11.2%('97)	
• % youth employment rate in 2000	14.7%	14%	17.2%('97)	25%('97)	12.9%
		27.2%			28.9%

Source: An view of youth development in the Netherlands Antilles, (Een beeld van jeugdontwikkeling op de Nederlandse Antillen), 1999/census 92/proefcensus 2000

With regards to contacts between children who are deprived for their liberty and the parents it should be mentioned that they are intitled to telephone contact and visits by their parents, other relatives and friends.

The Government is conscious of the need to reverse the rising imprisonment rate, policies with regards to diversion have partly – inspired by the Resolution adopted by the Justice Ministers of the Council of Europe I September 1999, the Ryahd guidelines and the Being Rules have been developed. Parliament is due to discuss a proposal of the Minister of Justice of the Netherlands Antilles for a Ministerial Decree that should establish a comprehensive framework for the following diversion forms:

- conditional non-prosecution of offenders under 24 years of age;
- conditional sentences for offenders under 24 years of age;
- conditional parole and pardon offenders under 24 years of age.

7.a,b,c,d. Child abuse

With regards to substance abuse, on the Island of Curaçao there is an establishment called “BRASAMI”. This facility provides support and treatment to adults who are addicted to drugs. At present the possibilities are being looked into to opening a sort-like facility for the young persons. Other forms of help is provided for through the Department for Mental Health and the Addiction Policy Foundation (FMA). In the Netherlands Antilles as far as known there are no children living in the streets. There might be cases of children who will run away from home for a few days, however these are not cases who do not have a home or caretakers to look after them.

Information about children engaged in pornography and other related activities is not registered. However it is a matter that the government will have to look into in the future.

With regards to sexual exploitation only the following information on the island of Curaçao was available.

In 2000 for the island of Curacao:

Children engaged in sexual abuse:

- 6 and 10 years of age: 6 (4 girls and 2 boys)
- 11 and 14 years of age: 19 (17 girls and 2 boys)
- 15 and 20 years of age: 21 (19 girls and 2 boys)

In 2001 for the island of Curacao:

Children engaged in sexual abuse:

- 6 and 10 years of age: 1 (1 boy)
- 11 and 14 years of age: 9 (9 girls)
- 15 and 17 years of age: 12 (12 girls)

Reference is furthermore made to the information Part I under B.5 (General measures of implementation) and Part III under Update Labour Legislation.

B General Measures of Implementation

1.
 - a) Status quo
 - b) The Declaration to article 22 reads as follows:
“ Article 22
The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands declares that whereas the Netherlands Antilles are not bound by the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, Article 22 of the present Convention shall be interpreted as containing a reference only to such other

international human rights or humanitarian instruments as are binding on the Kingdom of the Netherlands with respect to the Netherlands Antilles.”

2. Article 94 of the Constitution of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which applies to the entire Kingdom, also provides that statutory regulations in force within the Kingdom shall not be applicable if such application is in conflict with provisions of treaties that are binding on all persons or of resolutions of international institutions. The national courts are entitled and indeed obliged to apply the international provision, provided that they are of a self-executing nature and are therefore directly applicable in relations between government and an individual.

Individuals who consider that they have in some way been accorded unequal and thus discriminated against may have recourse to the courts.

3. The Kingdom of the Netherlands is a constitutional monarchy and a parliamentary democracy. The Kingdom consists of three autonomous parts. The Netherlands, Aruba and the Netherlands Antilles. The relationship within the Kingdom is governed by the so-called Charter of the Kingdom. Based on article 3 of said Charter, foreign affairs is a formal responsibility of the Kingdom as a whole. It is therefore the Kingdom of the Netherlands which has international legal binding capacity and therefore becomes a party to international instruments. However within the Kingdom it is the responsibility of each of the three parts to implement the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at national level. The guarantee of these rights and freedoms, but also the guarantee of security and good governance remains all by all a matter of the Kingdom.
4. See also Summary on “Implementation of the Rights of the Child on the Netherlands Antilles” (under nr 8 of this section), which has been drawn up and published by the Task Force in November 2001.

- 5.a. As of January 1st 2002 the Directorate of Social Development of the Netherlands Antilles (formerly Department of Welfare, Family and Humanitarian Affairs) is now part of the Ministry of Health and Social Development. Its main task is to develop national Social Development and Security policies and related legislation. Furthermore the Directorate has a monitoring role with respect to the implementation of policy on the island level. Targetgroups for the Directorate are families, gender issues, migrants, disabled and elderly persons. In the field of youth policy the focus is on family-related issues (e.g. domestic violence) and social crime-prevention.

Based on an existing plan for *National Meta-Policy Social Development and Welfare Netherlands Antilles 1997-2002* (de *Contourennota Nationale Sociaal Ontwikkelings- en Welzijnsplan 1997-2002*) the government was advised by the

Directorate to empower the social field by introducing more interactive policy between the stakeholders. Professionalization and enrichment of the cooperation would be made central through introduction of :

- general and specialized policy networks, in which NGO's participate in higher degree in the development and evaluation of policy;
- a National Council Board of Social Development to report the quality of social services and social development policy of the governments;
- National Social Outcome Monitoring of especially the targetgroups;
- a centralized subsidization office.

It should be mentioned that in the meantime in close relationship with the Directorate for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands Antilles and the Dutch Government, the Directorate forementioned has introduced a central NGO-Subsidy Body which will interact closely with the NGO-platforms on the respective islands. This new structure will further foster empowerment of the NGO's in general.

The Directorate of Social Development and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport in the Netherlands signed a protocol with the Netherlands Antilles in 2000. The main focus of this agreement was towards reaching a structural level of exchange of knowledge and expertise in the area of social development and welfare. In the context of this protocol, several topics have been selected to be addressed in the coming years. The first topic is on child abuse. Late 2001 two parties produced a Plan of Action, that has been published in the meantime. The aim of this plan was the establish recognizable, easy-to-access and effective centers that will be dealing with the phenomenon of child abuse. Furthermore the Action Plan recognized the need for a focal point where child abuse could be reported in an early stage and in a more structural manner than presently possible.

Therefore it was suggested to install a Steering Committee for "Advice and Reporting Centres against of Child Abuse". On each island a kick-off conference will take place with the relevant civil servants and government officials to start working out the functional model and the proposals for the Advice and Reporting Centres. This implementation-conference will be repeated each year as proposed in the Action Plan *Towards Advice and Reporting Centres against Child Abuse in the Netherlands Antilles*, October 2001.

On the other hand the Task Force for the Antillean is the National Focal Point and coordinating Unit for Youth policy. The Task Force works in close cooperation with all stakeholder governmental and non-governmental.

6. Over the years the Netherlands Antilles have established the Antillean Task Force (Task Force). Since the first of January of this year, this Task Force has become the Directorate for Youth Development. In this new format the Task Force has maintained her main tasks of coordination between the island entities. In addition, developing and monitoring policy areas in the field of the Rights of

the Child also remains one of the tasks. Due to the constitutional structure of the Netherlands Antilles, the island governments are autonomous and therefore in practice are the ones engaged in the implementation of most of the policy areas, in the field of the Rights of the Child, on an island-level. It is therefore the task of the Central Government to monitor these processes. Based on its founding Statutes, the Task Force is mandated to monitor and report on a yearly bases to the Ministry of Education and Youth Affairs, about the level of implementation on the different islands.

7. For additional information on development cooperation between the Netherlands reference is made to Part A.1 under g) and Part III under II Social Development and Security of this document.

Through the Fund for Social Development (Reda Sosial) twelve programmes were initiated in April 2000 to meet earlier recommendations made. The idea behind these programmes is to attack different coherent issues at the same time.

For the implementation of these programmes funds have been made available by the Antillean as well as the Dutch government.

The following progress report on poverty eradication, regarding the rights of the child, will give some impression on the level of cooperation between the Netherlands Antilles, the Netherlands and Antillean NGO's.

“OPSTAP”: support in the upbringing (parenting courses)

This two-year Opstap-programme organized by SIFMA (Centre for Information and Formation for the welfare of Children) (30 week per year) focuses on parents with a general secondary education and their **children between the ages of four and six**. The programme is mainly for parents who find themselves in a weak social-economical position and of whom the children have a greater chance of becoming drop-outs in the educational system.

In the first place all women within the framework of the research project on combating poverty were approached. Of these respondents women from the target groups “teenage mothers” and “drop-outs” were selected to participate in this parenting course. Namely the target group “**teenage mothers**” were chosen, because in the research half of them had indicated finding the upbringing of the children difficult. Number of participants: 180 (Curaçao and Bonaire).

Social skill and training

This project of FEFFIK (vocational training) attempts to decrease the chances on deviant behaviour and stagnation of the development through specific training, education geared towards on the labour market and appropriate guidance. Furthermore, work is done in groups where much emphasis is put on the exchanging of experiences, listening to each other and taking into account each others wishes and needs. Young persons who make use of this project learn the following:

- Social skills
- Papiamentu

- Functional Dutch language
- Basic arithmetic
- Business orientation

The course is given in modules and focuses on the acquisition of communicative skills, attitude promotion and profession skills. The course has a six-month duration.

As to participation to this course, first of all, persons who had been interviewed within the framework of the research of combating poverty were selected. Of these respondents persons from the target groups “**drop-outs**”, “**teenage mothers**” and “those who are unemployed and/or receive benefit” were selected to participate in this course.

Number of participants: 125

After school facilities

The programme of NOC (after school facilities) has as its goal providing for guidance to children in addition to the upbringing at home and as a continuation of general education. Special attention is given to the development of social, communicative and creative skills and attitude formation. The ultimate goal of this project is that in due time the number of drop-outs will decrease (children also receive homework guidance) The target group consists of students with working parents, with (threatening) development disorder and/or developmentally retarded, with social or social-emotional indication and children out of one-parent families, in the **age of 6 to 12 years**.

Number of participants: 1100 (Curaçao and St. Maarten).

Mobile walk-in

The goals of this mobile walk-in is to come into closer contact with problem phenomenon of drifters under drugs addict drifters and to set up a permanent point of support in the neighbourhoods where at present a centre does not exist. The intention is to get drug addicts examined by a doctor in exchange for a shower, breakfast, lunch and clean second hand clothes. The bus has fixed stands in four neighbourhoods. Each client is registered in the client information system of the FMA (FMA = Addiction Policy Foundation). Furthermore, information activities (the generating of understanding in relation to drugs problems) is provided. Working with volunteers from the neighbourhood remains necessary. The interaction with the local residents continues to be of utmost importance for this project to become a success. The bus must be seen as a pivot within the eternal triangle in which the government (Brasami and NGO-centres), the professionals (FMA) and the community (local residents) work together in order to combat the nuisance of addicts.

Improvement of housing

As a result of a survey a project has been developed to improve the housing infrastructure.

This survey indicated that 64 % of the target group (group with housing problem) is not satisfied with their situation. Another 63% showed that during the last 10 years insufficient progress had been made in the field of improving their housing conditions. The respondents who participated in the survey on combating poverty, were the first ones to participate in the house improvement project. During the year 2000 and 2001, 70 houses were improved (this will also be beneficial to the children living in these houses).

Combating malnutrition among school-age children

A Commission of School leaders, established by Reda Sosial has performed an investigation at schools in poverty areas to map malnutrition. The need for support in this area became notable. It is a fact now that during the realization/execution of feeding projects (taking care of breakfast, etc) close cooperation between the government and service clubs such as " Give the child a hand from the Lions club" will have to continue. For example the Lions club has already been fulfilling an interesting task in this field. At this moment 1000 breakfasts are being distributed at 21 schools that are attended by children coming from poverty areas.

Psychotherapy for underprivileged children

The psychotherapeutic treatment aims to help children with a (temporary) development disorder, whereby:

- treatment of the child is directed towards a specific social and/or emotional problem, using games as a means of achieving goals
- treatment of the child is directed towards eliminating certain (mostly cognitive) disadvantages: games are used as a means to harness further development

A number of children have been treated in the meantime for behavioural, social and emotional problems, problems at school, developmental problems, autism, and so forth. Also new cases are being accepted.

Literacy courses

Literacy courses are given to the target-group who is disadvantaged due to a deficient level in functional reading. To attack these disadvantages Pro Alfa (NGO), with subsidies from the from subsidy funds offers four courses: literacy, basic education, basic reading and reading for **drop-outs** and foreigners.

Improvement of facilities in the neighbourhoods

There is a trend that more and more healthcare services are being rendered to patients in the comfort of their homes, whereas traditionally these were only offered in an intramural manner.

Extramural healthcare implies: nursing patients at home, offering general healthcare services (80 % of patients is 65 years or older), healthcare services to **children in the range 0-4 years** and providing general healthcare information (prevention).

The current facilities of child healthcare services are now being transformed into a multifunctional offices, fitted to the needs of modern – i.e. increasingly extramural - healthcare services.

8. Both on governmental as non-governmental level measures are taken to disseminate information on the Convention as well as action taken to increase awareness. On a regular basis workshops and information programmes take place. A several number of these projects that have been developed by the NGO's have been realised in close cooperation with the government of the Netherlands Antilles or with subsidy from the government. One of the well-known NGO's in this field is SIFMA, which has developed a number of educational and awareness activities over the years.

Furthermore there is also a Foundation for protection of the Child.

This foundation has also disseminated a colorful folder in papiamentoe (the native tongue) on the Rights of the Child. The following first text represents the format which has been used for folders. Whilst the second example, which is a "Summary of the Report on the implementation of the Rights of the Child in the Netherlands Antilles" is a product of the Task Force of the Directorate for Youth Affairs of the Netherlands Antilles. This Summary is available in Dutch, English and is recently being translated into Papiamentoe.

“

This text has been produced by the Foundation for Protection of the Child (Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao) for producing folders in 2001. The same text has been adapted for use in folders in November 2001.

Teksto foyeto derechi di mucha

E foyeto aki ta dirihí na mucha ku ta bai skol básiko. Ta rekomendá edukador pa gui'é ora e ta lesa e foyeto aki.

Mucha tambe tin derechi

Derechi ke mèn loke bo tin mag di eksihí. Tur hende tin derechi. Hende grandi i mucha. Pero mucha ta pensa otro for di hende grandi. I mucha ta sinti otro. Pesei, i pa protehá mucha mihó tin derechi di mucha.

Tur mucha rònt mundu tin mesun derechi.

E derechinan aki ta reglá den e **tratado di derechi di mucha**.

Un tratado ta manera un akuerdo: tur pais ku firma ta primintí ku nan lo sòru bon p'e muchanan den nan pais. Nan mester sòru por ehèmpel pa skol i kas p'e muchanan. Pero tambe e tratado ta duna mucha un bos: mucha tin mag di bisa loke e ta sinti i pensa. E derechinan aki ta konta pa mucha te ku 16 aña.

E tratado ta trahá pa **Nashonan Uní**. Esaki ta un organisashon ku tin masha hopi pais rònt mundu komo miembro. Dia 20 di November 1989 e tratado aki a keda klá i for di e dia ei kasi tur pais na mundu a firm'è. Bo por bisa k'e tratado aki ta mostra gobièrnu* ki sorto di lei* e mester traha pa muchanan por biba salú i kontentu. Tambe e tratado ta mostra hende grandi kon trata mucha. Pues derecho di mucha no kemen ku ta mucha ta manda riba hende grandi.

For di 1998, Antias, pues Kòrsou tambe, a primintí di kumpli ku e tratado aki. Kemèn, **abo komo mucha tambe tin e derechinan aki**. Lesa e foyeto aki pa bo sa nan bon. Pidi un hende grandi pa les'è huntu ku bo si bo no ta komprondé tur kos. “

Esaki ta loke e palabranan difisil ta nifiká:

* gobièrnu- esnan ku ta bisa kiko mester sosodé den un pais

* lei – e reglanan ku gobièrnu pone pa tur kos kana bon den un pais.

“Esaki ta algun di e derechinan di mucha. E teksto ariba, chikitu ta pa edukadornan. E teksto abou mas diki ta un splikashon pa mucha

Mucha tin derechi riba:

1. Trato igual sin importá rasa, religion o nashonalidat
**Mester trata tur mucha meskos, sin wak ki koló bo tin, den ki forma
bo ta sirbi Dios o unda b'a nase.**
2. Oportunidat pa por desaroyá optimal riba tereno kógnitivo, fisiko, i soshal-emoshonal.
Bo mester por krese salú i kontentu.
3. Un nòmber i nashonalidat for di ora nan nase
Bo mester haña un nòmber for di ora bo nase. Tambe mester sa na kwa pais b'a nase.
4. Un hogar, bon alimentashon i kuido médiko

Bo mester tin un famia i un kas kaminda bo por biba dushi i kontentu; bo mester por kome dushi i salú i bo mester por bai dòkter ora bo ta malu.

5. Kuido i edukashon speshal ora nan tin desabilitat fisiko o mental
Si bo tin un hèndikèp bo mester haña atenshon èkstra. Bo mester por bai un skol kaminda por yudabo mihó.
6. Komprenshon
Hende grandi mester purba komprondé kon bo ta sinti. Bo mester por papia por ehèmpel ku un hende grandi ora bo ta sinti bo tristu.
7. Skol gratis i rekreashon salú
Ta importante pa bo bai skol sin mester di paga. Tambe ta importante pa mucha hunga pasobra e ta yuda bo krese bon i...ta dushi pa hunga!
8. Yudansa promé ku otronan den kaso di desgrasia o otro emergensha
Si por ehèmpel auto dal o un kas ta na kandela i bo ta den e auto o kas ei, mester yuda abo ku ta mucha promé ku hende grandi.
9. Protekshon den tur sentido di palabra, pero sigur kontra abuzu
Hende grandi mester kuida'bo i sòru pa bo no sinti miedu. Si henter ora bo ta haña slá, ta keda sin sòru pabo o ta keda sin duna'bo atenshon i kariño, anto esei ta abuzu. Tambe ta abuzu ora henter ora ta papia malu ku bo o ta forsabo hasi kosnan di hende grandi manera trabou, partisipá den aktonan seksual ets.
10. Krese den un ambiente yen di union, amistad, toleransha i amor .
Bo mester por sintibo kontentu i dushi huntu ku tur hende rònt di bo, na kas, na skol i tur kaminda.

E foyeto aki ta un produkshon di Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao/ Grupo di trabou kontra abuzu di mucha i Amnesty International Korsou. Den e grupo aki tin partisipashon di: Departamentu Salú Hubenil, 'Skuchami' (antes Departamentu Salú Mental- kinderteam), Plataforma di Mayor, Federatie Kinderopvang, Ban Bario Bek, Gezinsvoogdij-instelling, Jeugd en Zeden Zaken (antes Kinder- en Zedenpolitie), Voogdijraad, Fundashon Sentro pa Guia Edukashonal (antes KEZ – onderwijsondersteuning), Departamentu di Bienestar, Asuntunan Familiar i Humanitario, Telefon pa Hubentut, Departamentu di Salubridat i Medio-ambiente, Departamentu di Hustisia i Stichting Kinderbescherming Curaçao. “

Produkshon di teksto : Millennium Communications
Ilustrashon i arte grafiko : Ariadne Faries
Imprenta: De “Curacaosche Courant” NV

Part II

The text of the Convention on the Rights of the Child are available in the instruction language which is Dutch (Publication Bulletin 1990, nr. 170). Furthermore the English and French versions are also available (Publication Bulletin 1990, nr. 46). Other forms of information on the Convention is frequently provided by the Treaties and legal Division of the Directorate for Foreign Relations of the Netherlands Antilles. On the other hand the focal point for Youth Policy, which is the Task Force for the Netherlands Antilles has also published a summary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the Dutch and English languages, which is accompanied by an explanatory note (see website www.jeugd.an or www.youth.an). Copies are also made available by the local libraries. At this moments this summary is also being translated into the native tongue Papiamentoe.

Part III

I. Updating the educational system

Foundation Based Education

The Netherlands Antilles will transform its educational system during the next ten years. In dialogue with all the relevant institutions and amongst which the school boards, a major plan for the transformation has been developed.

The plan consists of four main parts.

1. The **Foundation Based Education** for children aged 4 (four) to 15 (fifteen) years. In the Foundation Based Education, there will be three cycles:
 - 1st cycle is aimed at developing and sustaining children between 4 (four) and 8 (eight) years.
 - 2nd cycle is for children between 8 (eight) and 12 (twelve) years.
 - 3rd cycle is directed to pupils between 12 (twelve) and 15 (fifteen) years.
2. The **Preparatory Vocational Education** is for pupils between 15 (fifteen) and 18 (eighteen) years, after finishing their third cycle of the Foundation Based Education.
3. The **Vocational Education** is optional for pupils who have graduated from the Preparatory Vocational Education. This possibility is open to enhance the education for those who would like to further their vocational training.

4. The **Higher education** is designed for all pupils who have accomplished the third cycle with excellent rates.

This year the first cycle of the Foundation Based Education will be implemented, starting in august 2002 at the opening of the new schoolyear.

Basic education as a way of introducing the third cycle of Foundation Based Education

At this moment the Netherlands Antilles has a pre-primary education (4-6 yr.) and a primary education (6-12 yr.), both levels of education are laid in national ordinances. Introducing the Basic education has been the first step on the path of realizing a new educational order in a more integrated way. This new order encloses an educational system starting from pre-schoolers up to where one achieves a certificate as a full trained professional with vocational skills needed to enter in the labor market.

I. Update on social development and security policy

In January 1996 the Government of the Netherlands Antilles commisioned a group of respected citizens and experts to make an inventory of the most urgent needs among the social and economical weakest groups in the Netherlands Antilles and to propose recommendations for improving their situation through specific programmes, projects and actions. These efforts resulted in a Report called "*Aan de Slag ! From Social Need to Economic Perspective*" in May 1996. The Report identified a need for significant and visible short-term improvements in the quality of life, at a time that policy reforms were being undertaken to achieve a solid financial-economic base for future growth and development.

The report recommended implementation of a socio-economic action programme with the purpose of contributing to structural improvement in the living conditions in the Netherlands Antilles.

Such an action programme would have to consist of two components:

1. an **urgency programme** consisting of measures aimed at reducing existing social arrears on short term.

Actions would cover:

- education and training (improving educational tools and teaching material for primary education maintaining school infrastructure, providing adult education);
- neighborhood improvement and housing (improving neighborhood infrastructure, supporting after-school activities, upgrading community centers, improving housing, increasing employment);
- sports (improving sports facilities)

- social development (youth care, care for the elderly, care for the addicted);
2. a **structural programme** aimed at economic diversification, enhanced sustainability of the economy, and the creation of permanent employment. Actions would cover:
- fostering small enterprise activities;
 - retaining of labor force;
 - exports promotion.

For increased effectiveness, it was proposed that the action programme be implemented through a non-governmental fund structure. It was also proposed that the Fund be well staffed and strongly managed, and that its existence would be of a temporary nature.

Acting expeditiously upon these recommendations, the Government established a foundation carrying the name “**Fund for Social Development and Economic Activities**” (**Reda Sosial/Social Safety Net**) on May 31, 1996. According to its charter, the Fund’s objectives are to finance and encourage the establishment of projects that are deemed of importance for the social and economic development of the islands of the Netherlands Antilles.

Poverty Assessment

To help identify the most disadvantaged groups in the first place in Curaçao, a Participatory Poverty Assessment (PPA) was undertaken in 1999.

This assessment was of importance, due to the fact that a year after the establishment of Reda Sosial a number of programmes were executed and yet the problems and needs of the vulnerable group remained on the rise as a result of the socio-economic and financial reality of the country. The factor of mass migration to the Netherlands also needed to be taken into account consideration. A new approach became necessary.

The PPA describes the experiences, aspirations and vision from the point of view of habitants living in marginalized neighbourhoods and provides, according to prioritised needs, a basis for an effective and responsive programme on poverty alleviation. Further research resulted in the report “**Pobresa, ban atak'é**” (“Poverty, let's attack the problem”, October 1999). This report reflects the results of interviews with a stratified sample consisting of 700 habitants, living in the marginalized neighborhoods *Kanga/Dein, Seru Grandi/Fuik, Berg Altena and Soto* on Curaçao. They were interviewed e.g. about their actual situation and their perception on employment, income, living-conditions, family-structure, level of education, the social-economic situation of Curaçao, their daily life and their own perspectives on improving their own situation. The interviews took place amongst elderly, drop-outs, teenage mothers, female-headed households (with children), people living in poor housing-conditions, drug-addicts, people working in the informal sector, unemployed ones and migrants.

Some of the results from these interviews were that, 74% didn't have more than primary school, affecting their position on the labour market. 78% of the respondents were unemployed. The average income for this group was Naf. 691 a month, which

equals \$384. Analysing the spending behaviour of the total research population, half of the disposable income was spent on food consumption and 61% considered themselves poor. 54% indicated not being satisfied with their living-conditions.

Therefore, Reda Sosial started twelve programmes in April 2000 to meet the recommendations. The idea behind these programmes is to attack different coherent issues at the same time. For the implementation of these programmes funds have been made available by the Antillean as well as the Dutch government.

II. Introduction of an “Urgency Programme for the Youth”

The observation that the situation under the youth of the different islands of the Netherlands called for special attention. A National Youth policy containing eight strategic goals has been formulated. For execution in an Urgency Programme term three spearheads were lifted from this policy plan.

It is paramount when executing this programme that close cooperation exists between the insular government, the non-governmental organizations and the industrial stakeholders.

In a short period (within a 2 years periode) a number of activities in the field of i.e. prevention, second chance and re-socialization should be realized:

- aimed at youth who run a great risk to become drop-outs;
- aimed at young persons who have had insufficient education and therefore have less job-opprtunities;
- aimed at youth and young persons with a criminal background or young people who could possibly fall into the criminal circuit;
- strengthening the social skills of young people.

Framework Urgency Programme

Intervention programme Urgency programme for youth and young persons	Indicators		Verification sources	
Development Goal Considerable improvement quality of life of high-risk youth and social economical integration within two years				
Programme goal Equipping of youth and young persons so that they can make optimal use of the presented possibilities for a considerable improvement of the quality of their life	The number of youth/young persons with a higher chance of a job and or influx in a form of further or vocational education		The indicator consists of the indicators on sub-programme level and is the total of the values of these indicators	
Programme results 1. Prevention that youth and young persons become underprivileged or prospectless 2. To give a second chance to prospectless young persons 3. Re-socializing of prospectless young persons	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The number of youth/young persons and parents/educators who receive preventive support 2. The number of youth/young persons who have had preparatory support for the access to the labour market and/or form of secondary education 3. The number of youth/young persons who have had re- socialized and preparatory support for the sake of access to the labour market 		The indicators are composed from the indicators from the project level within a sub- programme and is the total of the values of these indicators	
Programme activities	Budget first year		Budget second year	
	Curaçao	Other Islands	Curaçao	Other Islands
Sub-programme prevention	9.607.736	3.389.899	12.832.941	2.569.387
Sub-programme second chance	1.452.626	684.148	3.136.050	684.148
Sub-programme re- socializing and aid	6.774.228		4.753.834	
	17.834.590	4.074.047	20.722.825	3.253.535
Programme costs 5%	1.095.431		1.198.818	
Total	23.004.068		25.175.178	

Source: Taskforce Netherlands Antilles

First results from the Youth Monitor 2000

- School motivation: 30% doesn't like school, 64% pays little attention to homework, 85% says to be able to follow the lessons well. Almost half the school youth plays truant sometime. Optimism for the school period, truant playing and finding education easy, go hand in hand (12 years and older)
- Unwanted intimacies and discrimination: While 75% of the school youth is of the opinion that they can speak out, 34% speaks about unwanted intimacies and 31% complains that they are discriminated by teachers
- Side jobs: About 30% of the school youth have a side job. Part of this youth works due to the low income at home: "During the day I go the school and in the evening I work because otherwise there would not be money at home."
- Work attitude: Of the group of youth not going to school between 16 and 24 years 81% enjoy working, two-thirds has not finished the last school, which most of the time is the primary school or BVO. The majority however is looking for work, but doesn't always show a job-seeking attitude (50% doesn't apply)
- At home: Although a great majority of 94% is satisfied about the care they receive at home, 34% doesn't like to be at home. More than 60% says however that parents do not know how to educate them, 43% says that parents quarrel a lot and 39% that there is much violence in the families
- Future perspective: While more than 80% has a positive look on the future, 37% is worried about their personal future and experience loneliness (33%), uncertainty and low self-esteem (45%)
- Happiness: 83% enjoys life and 81% feels happy
- Suicide-figure: 14% at some point and time has thought about ending their life. 7% have made such an attempt
- Insecurity: 8-10% in 1999 has been molested with the offer of drugs or extraction of money and 7% with an offer to expose themselves for a porno magazine
- Social consciousness: A large majority (90%) finds it very important to do something for another person for free
- Emigration: 55% is considering emigration, this is the same on all the islands

Source: Note Urgency programme

II. Update on mother and child care/sexual and reproductive rights

With reference to paragraph 184 of the initial report the following can be adopted: At the end of the workshop, health authorities at both federal and insular levels and all health care institutions providing Mother and Child Care in the Netherlands Antilles signed a letter of intent, stating their willingness to promote breast-feeding by introducing the 10 steps to become a Baby-Friendly Hospital (BFH). Several care institutions on the islands, amongst which the designated pilot hospital St. Elisabeth in Curaçao, are well on their way to become Baby-Friendly Hospitals.

Teenage pregnancies

Paragraph 192 of the initial report could be adjusted as follows: In April 2000 the Ministry of Education installed a multi-sectorial working group that organized a Youth Summit Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. A group of young people representing all the 5 islands of the Netherlands Antilles participated in this event. The young people considered it to be of the utmost importance to be heard and given the chance to actively participate in decision making on matters of their concern.

They came up with the following resolutions: To urge the Government to:

- Adapt national legislation in compliance with international treaties and conventions:
 - to decrease the age of consent from 21 to 18 years
 - to increase the age when alcoholic beverages can be served to young people from 16 to 18 years
 - to make it compulsory for pregnant teenage girls to stay in the educational process (and for the school (boards) to admit them) to schools
 - to introduce legislation making it compulsory for pregnant teenage girls and their partners to follow parenting classes;
- To institutionalize a Youth Parliament on federal level that give young people direct influence on the decision making process
- To introduce proper infrastructure to allow young people to have access to reliable information, with emphasis on marginalized youth, such as school drop-outs;
- To support the structuring of existing information concerning sexuality and to make reliable information available to young people. Programmes aimed at the promotion of sexual and reproductive health should be accompanied with programmes directed to stimulate self-esteem of these target groups.

- To introduce and/or strengthen organizations and institutions that provide education and information concerning sexual and reproductive health and rights;
- To open and/or strengthen community centers with the purposes of providing information, recreation and activities to the youth.

The young people indicated strongly the need for more active involvement concerning methodologies used to provide them with information. They requested the NGO community:

- To train young people to be communicators and educators. Young people speak the same language and can be very effective in raising consciousness
- To involve young people in the design of informational and educational material, and introduce to them the use media skills and methodologies;
- To provide accessible social and recreational activities for young people regardless of their socio-economic background;
- To organize classes for parents about how to communicate with their children with a focus on promoting mutual respect, trust, and understanding;
- For all young people to have access to counseling and guidance, with emphasis on young people who lack these at home.

A law to restrict serving of alcoholic beverages to young people under 18 years was passed in March 2002 by Parliament. Furthermore the age of consent was lowered from 21 to 18 years in the New Bill of Civil Rights.

Both governmental as non-governmental organizations has identified the training of parents in the education and upbringing of their children as a priority. These include the Department of Social Affairs, (Youth) Health Service, Service Clubs, Platform of Parents in Education and other NGO's.

In the upcoming innovation in primary education, as was mentioned earlier the so called Foundation Based Education will be introduced in August 2002, topics about sexual, and reproductive health and Family Life education will be introduced as an integral part of the curriculum from age 4. The objective of the Foundation Based Education is to: "Produce citizens that can actively participate in the growth and maintenance of a dynamic community that is based on the principles of freedom, a culture of peace, tolerance and respect for each other, based on democracy and solidarism."

In this new type of education system alongside of the cognitive aspects of learning, attention will be given to the physical development, mental, spiritual and emotional health, and social, communicative and artistic skills of students.

III. Update in the field of preventive health care

Preventive health care which is free of charge and is provided on each of the five islands of the Netherlands Antilles. It should be remarked however that the level of development in this policy area might differ per island. At the moment there are some new developments for the island of Curaçao which will be illustrated as follows.

The preventive health care furnished by the Island Government of Curaçao is a free of charge, comprehensive and continuous care which starts with the baby clinics placed all over the island, school health for kindergarten, primary schools and adolescents in secondary education. Preventive care is accessible to all children living on the island of Curaçao regardless of their status. Their age makes them eligible for preventive care. The most important preventive health programme, which is immunization against vaccine preventable diseases, reaches more than 90% of the population indicated. The vaccination programme in Curacao consists of four doses of DPT, Polio, Hib vaccine and 1 dose of MMR before age 15 months. For the birth cohort of 1999 the following coverage was reported for the third dose of DPT - 94%, Polio -94%, Hib - 94%. The coverage for the first dose of MMR is 92%.

Revaccinations for DT, Polio are given at age 4 and at 10 years again plus MMR. The coverages for the revaccinations are 87,9% for kindergarten and 84,4% for 10 year olds.

Health education programmes, developed specifically for youngsters and adolescents on sexuality, growing up, healthy lifestyle and personal hygiene, all include information on contagious diseases, p.e. STD's and AIDS/HIV in particular.

The total budget allocated by the Island Government of Curaçao to Preventive Health Care for Youth (age group 0-19), specifically to the Department for Child & Youth Health:

2000: Naf. 3.859.822

2001: Naf 4.264.165

2002: Naf 4.373. 052

An increase in the allocated budgets can be determined.

In the budget for the island of Curaçao in 2002 the following amounts have been allocated for:

- **vaccination:**
Naf 142. 250,00 for biologicals/ vaccines
Naf 269. 965,00 for personnel
- **preventive adolescent health care:**
Naf 92. 352,00 for personnel
- **health education**
Naf 15. 000,00

In 1994 the Island government proclaimed the 15th of June as the National Child Health Day. Every year special attention is dedicated to a specific topic important for children's health. For 2002 the topic is security of children and adolescents. Health educational material is developed on the specific topic and distributed in the schools, occasionally accompanied by training sessions.

Mental health/Curaçao

The Mental Health Department of the Public Health Services was privatized in 2000 into a foundation which is subsidized by the local government. The newly formed Mental Health Foundation (PSI) receives a subsidy of **Naf. 1.666.000,00** to give free of charge mental health care for 0- 19 year olds consisting of assessment and diagnostics, treatment (therapy or counseling), case management, assessment of the need for voluntary out-placement of children and youth outside the home institutional foster care. The assessment is made on the basis of objective criteria formulated using the principle that voluntary out-placement is a measure of last resort to benefit the child. It should be applied sparingly because every child has a right to family life with his or her biological parents.

Institutional care/Curaçao

On the budget of the island's government a sum of **Naf 3.920.000** is allocated to institutional foster care for children and youth who cannot be maintained at home due to behavioral problems or negative home conditions. Placement of these children is since July 2001 in the hands of a unit specialized in mental health for children and youth. This unit is part of the fully subsidized foundation for mental health PSI and has the responsibility since July 2001 to place children on a voluntary basis under institutional foster care.

HIV/AIDS/Curaçao

With reference to paragraph 187 of the initial report the following update should be considered of some relevance. The Netherlands Antilles have engaged in the process of developing a National Strategic Plan (NSP) for the prevention and control of HIV/AIDS in cooperation with UNAIDS, UNDP, CAREC, PAHO and CARICOM. The process started late 1999. The island of St.Martin had its Insular SP finalized in 2001 and adopted by the government. The other islands of the Netherlands Antilles will have their SP's in place by June 2002 that will be part of the NSP.

The Netherlands Antilles together with Aruba are also engaged in a joint mission to draft a Sub-regional Framework on HIV/AIDS and Action Plan which will allow both countries to benefit from the EC OCT funds/Pan Caribbean Partnership. This process is supervised by the Directorate for Development Cooperation of the Netherlands Antilles.

Priority areas on HIV/AIDS (as identified by the 5 islands of the Netherlands Antilles):

- Advocacy, policy development and legislation
- Care and support of people living with HIV/AIDS
- Prevention of HIV Transmission, with focus on young people
- Strengthening planning and managerial capacity for programs at the insular and national level.

HIV-infection surveillance Netherlands Antilles 1985 thru December 31, 2001

- S Collected data are from a laboratory based HIV-registration for the 5 islands of the Netherlands Antilles during 1985 - 2001. The total cumulative known cases over said period are 1222.
- S Out of the 1222 known HIV-infected persons, 689 (56.4%) are male and 533 (43.6%) are female.
- S Since 1990 there is a mean of approximately 80 new known HIV-infections per year for the 5 islands of the Netherlands Antilles together.
- S HIV-infections are more prevalent on the islands Curaçao and Sint Martin, respectively 786 (64.3%) and 406 (33.2%) of all registered cases.
- S The majority (66%) of the registered HIV-infected were diagnosed in the age-group of 25-44 years of age and 4.7% are children diagnosed under 15 years of age.

Statistics on HIV positive cases in the Netherlands Antilles

Cumulative registered known HIV-positives Netherlands Antilles 1985-2001 per island by gender						
Gender	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	Sint Eustatius	Sint Martin	Netherlands Antilles
Male	10	450	3	4	222	689
Female	9	336	2	2	184	533
Total	19	786	5	6	406	1222

Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Medical and Public Health Service of Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles

New registered known HIV-positives Netherlands Antilles 2001 per island by gender						
Gender	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	Sint Eustatius	Sint Martin	Netherlands Antilles
Male	0	26	0	0	6	32
Female	2	23	0	0	7	32
Total	2	49	0	0	13	64

Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Medical and Public Health Service of Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles

Cumulative registered known HIV-positives Netherlands Antilles 1985-2001 per year of diagnosis by island						
Year	Bonaire	Curaçao	Saba	Sint Eustatius	Sint Martin	Netherlands Antilles
1985	0	9	0	0	0	9
1986	0	34	0	1	11	46
1987	0	40	0	2	12	54
1988	1	51	0	1	27	80
1989	1	47	1	0	29	78
1990	3	37	3	0	49	113
1991	0	47	0	0	30	80
1992	0	58	0	2	32	71
1993	1	50	0	0	31	79
1994	0	37	0	0	22	59
1995	2	32	0	0	33	67
1996	2	45	0	0	32	79
1997	2	58	1	0	27	88
1998	0	63	0	0	21	84
1999	0	62	0	0	20	82
2000	5	67	0	0	17	89
2001	2	49	0	0	13	64
total	19	786	5	6	406	1222

Source: Epidemiology & Research Unit. Medical and Public Health Service of Curaçao, Netherlands Antilles

IV. Update labour legislation

On August 1st 2001 a new Labour Regulation entered into force (Official Bulletin 2000, no. 67). Article 2, paragraph 1, section c of the Labour Regulations 2000 prohibits work done by children under the age of 15 years. In the Labour Regulations 1952 the age limit was 14 years.

In paragraph 288 of the initial report states those children who have reached the age of 12 and who have completed primary school may work. The completion of primary school is not required in the Labour Regulations 2000 (Article 19). It was felt that this restriction could be discriminatory, because usually these children come from the lower social classes and they are often the ones who repeat classes in the primary school. And the families in these social classes often benefit from the extra income that these children in these age categories earn with for example by delivering newspapers or packing groceries in shopping bags at the supermarket.

The age limit for night work and work of a dangerous nature by young persons has also been changed to 15 years in the Labour Regulations 2000 in stead of the 14 years in the Labour Regulations 1952. (see paragraph 289 of the initial report)

As to paragraph 295 of the initial report it can be said that Article 26, paragraph 1 of the Labour Regulation states that intentional violation of Article 18 (prohibition of child labour), Article 20 (prohibition of night work by young persons) and Article 21 (prohibition of work of a dangerous nature by young persons) is considered a criminal offence and carries a maximum of four year's imprisonment, a fine not exceeding Naf. 100.000 or a combination of both.

Paragraph 2 of this Article further states that if a requirement, obligation or condition of the Labour Regulation 2000 is not or not entirely met, this is considered an offence and carries a maximum of one year imprisonment, a fine not exceeding Naf. 25.000 or a combination of both.

In paragraph 296 of the initial report ILO Convention no. 58 concerning the minimum Age (sea) also applies to the Netherlands Antilles, through the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

