Some Preliminary Thoughts on the Formation of a Regional Association for Distance Education

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1. A Caribbean Regional Association for Distance Education should be a network of a range of stakeholders that are involved in the field of distance education. These stakeholders would include national associations of distance education and regional associations, educational institutions, agencies and corporations.

2. Purpose/objectives of the Association could include the following:

- To promote distance education as a means for contributing to the development goals of the Caribbean.
- To support and assist national associations for distance education as well as regional bodies/institutions to establish or strengthen their capability in distance education.
- To foster cooperation and collaboration, and encourage the development of partnerships and sharing of resources between and among members that would create opportunities for new educational initiatives.
- To provide forum for the professional development of individuals from the region who are involved in distance education.
- To establish standards for ensuring quality and professionalism in the practice of distance education in the region.
- To represent the region in international fora and international activities that are relevant to distance education.