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INTRODUCTION

The 12th Meeting of the Association of Island Marine Laboratories of the Caribbean was hosted by the Caribbean Marine Biological Institute in Curacao, Netherlands Antilles from 22 to 26 September 1976. The Island Government of Curacao represented by the Lieutenant Governor Mr. Ornelio Martina and others welcomed the Association with a cocktail party at the Frommer Hotel on the evening of 22 September. The following morning Mr. Martina and AIMLC 1st Vice President Meredith Jones officially opened the meeting with brief addresses prior to the first of ten sessions of scientific paper presentations. The sessions extended for two days in facilities of the Frommer Hotel adjacent to the Caribbean Marine Biological Institute, as 39 papers were presented and 66 registrants from 7 countries representing more than 24 laboratories and universities exchanged information.

The regular meeting was concluded Friday night with a splendid exhibition of folkloric dancing and a cocktail party offered by Mr. Wilson Godett, Minister of Sport, Culture and Recreation and organized and hosted by Mr. E. A. V. Jesurun, Head of the Bureau of Culture and Education and Mr. Johan van WALBEECKPLEIN of Curacao. This festive event was held at the Landhuis Brakkeput Mei-Mei.

At the business meeting of the Association held on Thursday evening an institutional membership invitation was extended to the St. Croix Marine Station of the University of Texas.

Following the regular sessions a large contingent was accompanied to Bonaire, Netherlands Antilles, by Ingvar Kristensen, Director of CARMABI, for a variety of excursions. Throughout the 12th Meeting Ingvar and the staff and students of the Caribbean Marine Biological Institute provided tireless help of all sorts. Their able organization and cordial hosting of this meeting brings thanks from all the participants.