

Migration and Transnationalism: Opportunities and Challenges

The Caricom region



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Motivating factor- the political landscape

- Caricom single market and the economy

- Single space
- Free movement
- Work permits
- Treatment of UWI graduates
- Other categories of workers



Motivating factor-preservation of rights

All who work have rights. Whosoever they are. This has been laid down at the International level by all governments in the United Nations



Motivating factor- the agreement preamble

- THE CONTRACTING PARTIES:

CONSIDERING- that one of the aims of the Caribbean Community is the fostering of unity among its members by functional cooperation in the areas of social security



Delegates at Caricom Heads of Social Security Organizations meeting in The Bahamas

Motivating factor - the agreement

- **RECOGNISING:** that harmonisation of the social security legislation of the member states of the Community is one of the ways envisaged to promote functional cooperation and regional unity



Motivating factor- the agreement

AFFIRMING: the principles of equality of treatment for residents of the contracting parties under their social security legislation, The maintenance of rights acquired or in the course of acquisition as well as the protection and maintenance of such rights notwithstanding changes of residence among their respective territories- principles which underline several of the conventions of the ILO



The Agreement itself

- Provides for
 - Equality of treatment
 - Maintenance of rights
 - Protection of rights
 - Through the principles of
 - PORTABILITY
 - TOTALISATION
 - Move don't loose



The Agreement itself – scope of benefits

- Invalidity pensions
- Disablement
- Old age or retirement pensions
- Survivors pensions and
- Death benefit in the form of pensions



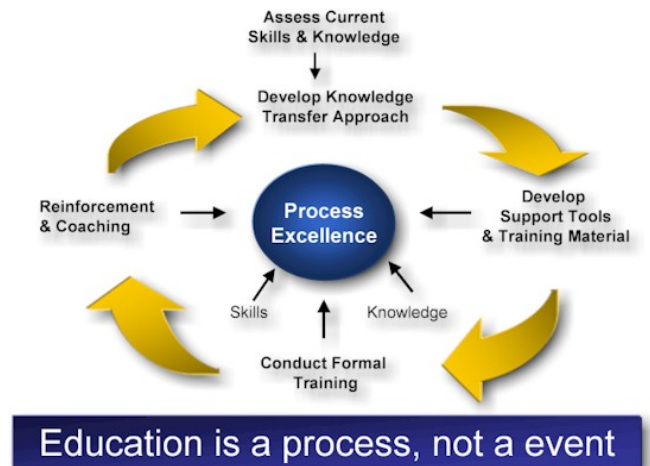
Challenges systemic in nature

- Different retirement ages
- Different benefit levels
- Different time lines
- Poor labour market recruitment practices
- Seven different currencies
- Different ICT systems



opportunities

- System unification / enhancement
- Establishment of bilateral agreements to give effect to timely service delivery
- Enhance quality of life-pensions not grants
- Skills and knowledge transfer
- Economic enhancement



How to expand the opportunities

- Rethink work and work patterns
- Assess fully
 - the issue of skill and requisite treatment
 - Labour market flexibility
 - Labour force protection
 - Labour market participation



Conclusion

- A new paradigm shift to support the principles of:
 - Universality
 - Equity
 - Justice
 - Social inclusion
 - solidarity