

[1] **DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**
[2] [2:21 p.m.]
[3] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: We have two to go.
[4] Dominican Republic goes first.
[5] Okay. Claude Denton is going to do the
[6] Dominican Republic staff analysis.
[7] MR. DENTON: Good afternoon, members of
[8] the Committee. I will be presenting the annual
[9] report submitted by the Dominican Republic.
[10] At the October 1997 meeting, the Committee
[11] determined that the evaluation process used by the
[12] National Council of Higher Education, or CONES, the
[13] agency tasked with evaluating medical schools in
[14] the Dominican Republic, was comparable to that used
[15] in the United States. Since that meeting, the
[16] agency's name was changed by presidential decree to
[17] the National Council of Higher Education, Science
[18] and Technology, or CONESCT.
[19] At its September 2001 meeting, the
[20] National Committee on Foreign Medical Education and
[21] Accreditation requested an annual report for
[22] today's meeting that would provide an overview of

[1] accreditation activities, a summary of changes to
[2] laws, regulations, standards, processes, and
[3] procedures, and a schedule of upcoming
[4] accreditation activities.
[5] Since the September 2001 meeting, the
[6] acronym used for the agency's name was changed to
[7] make it more descriptive and easier to remember in
[8] Spanish. Therefore, the acronym CONESCT has been
[9] replaced by SEESCYT. The agency's full name, the
[10] National Council for Higher Education, Science and
[11] Technology, has not changed.
[12] The Dominican Republic has been active in
[13] evaluating medical schools during the past year.
[14] Ten site visits were conducted for the purpose of
[15] assessing medical school compliance with Law No.
[16] 139-01 for Higher Education, Science and
[17] Technology. This relatively new law makes certain
[18] changes in the legal requirements imposed on
[19] medical schools in the Republic, including more
[20] stringent requirements related to facilities and
[21] library resources. These changes were reported to
[22] this Committee previously. The agency reports that

[1] it expects substantial compliance with this law by
[2] the end of calendar year 2002.
[3] The Dominican Republic reports no changes
[4] in its standards, processes, and procedures during
[5] this reporting period. The agency has provided a
[6] schedule showing a total of 22 site visits that
[7] have been conducted or are planned for calendar
[8] year 2002. Also, plans have been made for
[9] Department staff and representatives of this
[10] Committee to observe a site visit at two clerkship
[11] sites and one medical school in—well, actually,
[12] later this morning.
[13] In conclusion, staff believes that the
[14] Dominican Republic has provided all of the
[15] information requested by the Committee, and its
[16] actions are consistent with Committee guidelines.
[17] That concludes my remarks.
[18] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: Thank you.
[19] Any public comments before we move into
[20] Executive Session? Any questions? Lee?
[21] DR. DOCKERY: Lee Dockery. Do you have
[22] any idea how many people they have on their site

[1] visit teams or their accreditation team? Are they
[2] all paid site visitors? The volume of people that
[3] it takes to do that many site visits in that short
[4] period of time is—
[5] MR. DENTON: This will be my first site
[6] visit later this month. We'll have more
[7] information then.
[8] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: If we can go into
[9] Executive Session then, please.
[10] [Whereupon, the Committee moved into
[11] Executive Session.]
[12]

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[1] [2:24 p.m.]
[2] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: All right.
[3] DR. MALDONADO: I'm ready for a motion, if
[4] there are no questions.
[5] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: Everyone else is,
[6] too, I guess.
[7] DR. MALDONADO: I move that the National
[8] Committee on Foreign Medical Education and
[9] Accreditation accept the annual report submitted by
[10] the Dominican Republic and request that the Consejo
[11] Nacional, or whatever name you want to put there,
[12] submit another report of its accreditation
[13] activities for review at the September 2003
[14] meeting.
[15] DR. CARON: Second. Do we need to include
[16] the findings of the site visit on that next report
[17] or not?
[18] DR. MALDONADO: It's a report. We will be
[19] making also—yes, it will be included, I'm sure, in
[20] that report.
[21] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: Okay. We have a

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[1] motion and a second. Any further discussion?
[2] [No response.]
[3] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: All in favor?
[4] Okay. All opposed?
[5] Motion carries.
[6] [End of Executive Session at 2:26 p.m.]

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[1] ST. LUCIA
[2] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: We will now do our
[3] last evaluation. Poor Joyce has been waiting.
[4] MS. JONES: That's okay.
[5] CHAIRPERSON JACOBSON: All right. Joyce,
[6] the floor is yours.
[7] MS. JONES: Thank you very much. I will
[8] present to you the summary of the request by the
[9] Government of St. Lucia for this Committee to defer
[10] its request for reconsideration of a previous
[11] determination. This Committee reviewed St. Lucia
[12] in September 1996 and again in October 1997,
[13] finding at that time that the country's system of
[14] oversight and evaluation at its one medical school
[15] were not comparable to the system used to accredit
[16] medical schools in the United States. At your
[17] September 2001 meeting, you deferred a
[18] comparability decision on St. Lucia until this
[19] meeting, but you requested the country to submit
[20] additional information assessing the medical
[21] school's clinical clerkship sites in Mexico and the
[22] United Kingdom, as well as information on the

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[1] process used by the school to place students in
[2] clinical clerkship assignments.
[3] St. Lucia has requested that you defer
[4] your review of its application until spring 2003.
[5] It had a heightened need to reform the country's
[6] health sector and mental health services.
[7] Therefore, several members of the Monitoring
[8] Committee worked on the project that led to the
[9] postponement of the on-site visit to the clinical
[10] clerkship in Mexico. In addition, the Monitoring
[11] Committee has decided to reassess all of the
[12] clinical clerkships and to conduct a complete
[13] review of the medical school beginning in August
[14] 2002. Therefore, St. Lucia is requesting that it
[15] be allowed to submit a full report of its
[16] accrediting activities for review by this Committee
[17] at your spring 2003 meeting.
[18] Currently, the Department is making travel
[19] plans to observe the clinical clerkships at the
[20] Juarez, Mexico, site in mid-October 2002.
[21] Therefore, the Department remains available to
[22] observe any aspects of the reviews that the country