

tivities and charity work. Opportunities exist to lead courses in music, literature, personal development, cuisine, dance, exercise, arts and crafts. The Venezuelan-American Association of University Women will provide women who have done volunteer work with its organization with a letter verifying this experience, for possible future use in the job market.

CARIBBEAN: GENERAL EMPLOYMENT SITUATION

Despite the fact that four of the five Caribbean posts which responded to enquiries on employment opportunities abroad for foreign service spouses have reciprocal employment agreements with Canada, the opportunities for obtaining gainful employment are severely limited by local unemployment, red tape, and low salaries.

BARBADOS (Bridgetown)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: Yes
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 1
Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: No

In general, employment opportunities for spouses are very limited and are almost non-existent for teenage dependants. The mission, and the Canadian community, try to employ spouses and dependants within the limitations imposed, should opportunities arise.

Persons not included in the reciprocal employment agreement are unlikely to obtain a work permit. In March 1983, the Barbados government implemented measures to ensure that jobs are reserved for Barbadians by birth by preparing a "List of Reserved Occupations" which is used by the Immigration Department when considering applications for work permits. A work permit is also necessary for voluntary work and is subject to the same criteria. The "List of Reserved Occupations" contains approximately 500 job titles which are considered to be in sufficient supply in Barbados. This list is available at the Posting Services Centre.

Barbadian employers are well aware of the existence of this "List of Reserved Occupations" but not of the reciprocal employment agreement. Employers are very reluctant to consider non-Barbadians for job vacancies.

CUBA (Havana)

Reciprocal Employment Agreement: No
Approximate number of spouses working as locally engaged staff: 0
Community Coordinator contract work exists: Yes
Registered Nurse position exists at the mission: Yes

Opportunities for employment are very limited in Havana. Some spouses with the appropriate qualifications have assisted, on a part-time basis, at the Foreign Students School for English-speaking children. Such assistance would be