

# A Key Shortcoming in Safeguarding Arrangements and Corresponding Remedy –Waldemar Klassen

The 2004 Invasive Species Workshop in Trinidad identified the need for a Greater Caribbean Regional coordinating mechanism.

The Workshop Report stated:

“CAHFSA is the logical regional coordinating entity to spearhead the regional alien invasive species safeguarding strategy.

“However, CAHFSA - being specifically a CARICOM-serving institution - will have to be structured such that its sphere of influence is extended beyond the boundaries of its 15 member states.”

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CISSIP was drafted with the idea that CAHFSA would implement it, but CAHFSA had not yet been launched in June, 2007 when CISSIP was submitted for funding to the CARICOM Agricultural Donors Conference.

In the absence of an appropriate institutional home, no donor funded CISSIP.

Among the CISSIP components, CPDN is emerging, but the

- (i) Public Education,
- (ii) Pest Surveillance and Identification and
- (iii) Information System components are dormant.

These critically important components need to be launched.

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On 18 March 2010 CARICOM launched CAHFSA with its headquarters in Suriname.

QUESTION: Has the time come for CAHFSA to adopt all CISSIP components and provide the leadership and coordination for deploying them throughout the Greater Caribbean Region?