

Appendix A

Commonwealth Meeting on Government Policy

on Youth Affairs

Opening Ceremony

COMMONWEALTH MEETING ON GOVERNMENT POLICY ON YOUTH AFFAIRS
OPENING CEREMONY

ADDRESS BY: H.E. MR. SHRIDATH S. RAMPHAL
Commonwealth Secretary-General

Mr. Chairman, Your Excellency, The President of India,
Commonwealth colleagues.

You do us great honour, President Reddy, by being with us
today and opening this Commonwealth Meeting concerned with
government policies on youth affairs.

The Government of India has been a consistent and constructive
supporter of the Commonwealth Youth Programme. This Asia-
Pacific Centre provided through the generosity of the Indian
Government is testimony enough. And it is fitting that this young
Programme, both idealistic and practical in concept, should
have one of its regional centres established in a young city
and especially in this city. Chandigarh is a dramatic social
statement: an affirmation of belief in man's ability to live
in harmony with his environment. The Commonwealth Youth
Programme is also a social statement: an affirmation of
belief that by working together the countries of the Common-
wealth can provide a better life for its young people.

The Commonwealth Youth Programme was first contemplated in
1969. In part, it was a defensive reaction to the wave of
student unrest in the late 60's. But there was also a
positive side to the Commonwealth's reaction to the frustrated
energy of the young - acceptance of the challenge to better
organize our societies, to harness this energy, to make
constructive use of the enterprise and the idealism of the
young, to recruit youth to purposes which are socially con-
structive and not socially destructive.

The conclusion of Heads of Government in Ottawa in 1973, that
a Commonwealth Youth Programme should be established, was a
brave decision. Not everyone is enamoured of the idea of
youth policy; and this is not just the reaction of the
diminishing tribe who eschew State action in social matters
and who believe that youth is best left to the schools, the
Scouts, and the Church. Some young radicals look with a
cautious eye on the hand extended by the State to help youth
lest it be the clasp, the grasp that applies restraint and
re-direction. Others, less suspicious, worry lest policy,
instead of being socially responsive and integrating, becomes
divisive - creating barriers between the young and other
sections of the community.

A further difficulty is, of course, identifying the young.
Who are they? Should a youth programme be concerned with all

young people - from birth to, say, 25 or 30? Can age alone be the touchstone? Will a young tradesman of 24, with a job and a wife and two children, identify as readily with a 17 year old apprentice as with a married tradesman twice his age?

And these are only some of the rocks around which we must navigate in the uncharted waters of youth policy. Do we need a single youth policy or a set of policies? A single blueprint or a series of integrated programmes articulated to meet specific needs, but consistent each with the other and with a total social policy strategy? And must not that social policy strategy be concerned with the wider well-being of the national community rather than with youth mainly? Must it not deal with policies related to education, health, welfare, community development, and national development? With so integrated an approach, can cohesive social action programmes counter the charge that youth policies are divisive? Perhaps, above all, can the authority to determine youth policy, be used not to impose and coerce but to stimulate and liberate.

Youth policies which recognise these variables and are responsive to them - which convince the sceptical young that here is a programme for them and, to some extent at least, by them, have some chance of harnessing the resources of youth to the highest purposes of national progress.

It is in the nature of things that those who determine policy are, with rare exceptions, no longer young. So youth policy makers have a problem of credibility. Both wisdom and prudence dictate that those who advise their governments on youth policy should listen carefully and with receptiveness to what youth has to say. The techniques governments have adopted to ensure that the voices of the young are heard in the corridors of power where youth policy is made can bring a valuable dimension to your deliberations. And they have relevance for our collective programmes also.

Youth participation in the Commonwealth Youth Programme has been a recurrent issue since the inception of the Programme. I cannot claim that we have solved the problem of effectively getting the voice of youth into our deliberations; but we have tried. For example, in May 1977, under the auspices of the CYP, young leaders (the great majority were under 35 years of age) from 35 Commonwealth countries met to consider such matters as youth participation in decision making, and education in its broadest sense. In May next, young leaders will again meet, this time in Colombo, Sri Lanka. They will consider strategies to deal with Commonwealth youth unemployment and the search for a New International Economic Order.

And we have sought to involve young people in the administration of the Commonwealth Youth Programme. At the last meeting of the Commonwealth Youth Affairs Council in Ottawa, the Programme paid for the attendance of one young representative from each country. Moreover, their attendance was on the understanding that they would participate in the discussions and seek to make an impression on the shape of the Youth

Programme. It was largely because of the work of the young representatives at the Ottawa Council meeting that the Council agreed to promote and fund a Second Young Leaders Meeting. The Council also agreed that the arrangements for that meeting should be placed in the hands of a representative group of young leaders. It will be their show; it will be our job to listen to what they have to say.

And we shall have to go on listening to - and hearing - the demands of the young to be more involved, to have a greater influence on matters that affect them. Right here at this Chandigarh Centre, such a dialogue could take place. Some of you who are participants in the current diploma course may feel that your role is too docile, too passive, that you are being fed facts and information with too little opportunity to contribute, to toss around ideas within the group and to seek out for yourselves a concept of youth work which would be exciting to you and would make what you do more helpful to others. We must give weight to such opinion and be ready to respond when it is valid. If we are to expect our youth workers to be creative innovators, to be responsive to the demand of the young for participatory processes, then it may not be unreasonable that they should themselves be trained by a participatory process.

Like its sister Centres in Zambia and Guyana, the CYP Asia-Pacific Centre is a most important Commonwealth enterprise. In its first five years, some 300 participants have been through the Commonwealth Youth Programme's diploma courses. This does not mean that we have yet saturated the market, or that we have done anything but make a slight impression on the Commonwealth's need for more trained youth workers. But those 300 or so graduates from the Programme's courses are now working effectively in the countries of the Commonwealth, and some of them are involved in national training courses and so multiplying the constructive effect of the Chandigarh course.

The Commonwealth Youth Programme does not, of course, advocate a 'one best way' approach to youth programmes. A national youth programme has to relate to the special conditions of each country. Each programme is unique and each, in a sense, is experimental - continually adapting its scope and content in the light of results and changing circumstances. But it is this experimental and flexible nature of youth programmes which lead them to the borrowing and adaptation of ideas from other countries. One of the great advantages of this meeting is surely that youth policy makers will be able to find out what is being contemplated and what is being accomplished in youth work in the various Commonwealth countries. You will get to know the faces behind the programmes and I trust that this will encourage regular contacts between you as fellow practitioners in the area of youth affairs. You will return to your own countries with new ideas, with new friends, and with the knowledge that the Commonwealth connection facilitates a learning process that is the very essence of the experience of youth.

And the Commonwealth association offers another opportunity which I hope you will not ignore as you look ahead to youth policy in the 80's and beyond. It was, I believe most perceptively underscored last week in Bangalore by Shri Morarji Desai when he inaugurated the first Commonwealth Industry Ministers Conference. In a world regrettably characterised by adversary relationships and a striving for exclusive rather than mutual progress the Prime Minister of India lauded the Commonwealth for recalling the world to the value of competition in service. Let our pride in potential be matched by the deeper satisfaction of performance. Let those precepts of service to a wider humanity be not alien to your own deliberations so that they may better inform the youth policy of Commonwealth countries. It may be the vocation of youth in the last half of this century to snap humanity to its senses lest we forfeit the privilege of inheriting the century beyond the year 2000. In the precept of service may well lie the codes of global survival. Let us not be too timid in acknowledging the contributions we all can make - here in Chandigarh and, beyond Chandigarh, in your several capitals the world over.

ADDRESS BY:
THE PRESIDENT OF INDIA
SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY

I am very happy to be here to inaugurate the Commonwealth Meeting on Government Policy on Youth Affairs. I should like to extend a special welcome to the delegates who have come from different parts of the world to participate in this meeting and wish them a pleasant and useful sojourn in our country. The Commonwealth is a symbol of voluntary participation on the basis of equality and mutual self-respect among the developed and the developing countries and among countries of different races and culture. We believe that this fundamental principle of equality and mutual respect among the various countries is the foundation of civilised social relationship and equitable international order.

Youth is an important segment of population, all over the world. They comprise more than 50 per cent of the population in many countries. This represents a vast resource of manpower. Young people are more sensitive to the problems obtained in modern society. They are more responsive to new ideas and to change. Due to technological advance in the mass media, youth today are better informed and more articulate than their predecessors. They can be an asset to society, if they are properly understood, channelled and appreciated by the society. If properly oriented and developed, they contribute greatly towards development. At the same time, they could be equally dangerous if they are misunderstood and misjudged. Their efforts to achieve social reform should be appreciated, sympathetically analysed and constructively guided towards more positive action.

The potentialities of youth and their contribution to development are increasingly recognised by the governments of all countries in the world. They are becoming increasingly aware of the need to develop this vast resource to play a constructive role in society. Any developmental effort will remain weak without the active co-operation of youth who have an important contribution to make. They need to be intimately involved in community problems and community projects. This, in turn, will provide them with the stimulation for personal growth and satisfaction and for the development of social responsibility. There are a number of instances, all over the world, where youth is ready and able to contribute to national development in a wide variety of ways. The emergence of organised national voluntary services provides a useful mechanism for youth to express their urge for action in concrete terms and contribute towards social reconstruction and national development.

In India, the National Service Scheme was introduced about ten years ago for voluntary participation of students in social and national service. I am told that at present, only about one-tenth of students and institutions of higher education participate in this scheme. We should try to increase the number of students who participate in this programme and introduce national and social service as a part of the curricular requirement for all students. There is also a great opportunity for students in the National Adult Education Programme to serve their brothers and sisters who have remained excluded from the formal education system. This new programme, is essentially a youth programme because the emphasis in it is on the spread of literacy, functional education and an awareness of rights and responsibilities mainly among persons between 15 and 35 years of age. Here is a chance for students who come from comparatively better-off backgrounds to mix with and serve the disadvantaged youth. I would like to emphasise that every university and college should prepare its own programme in a way that will allow teachers and students to contribute to the National Adult Education Programme.

The Commonwealth Governments have, for a long time, been actively involved in organising programmes designed to help young people. During the last decade young people have received greater attention and many activities and programmes for and by youth are being implemented. If there is no meaningful co-ordination of the activities, there is a likelihood of their over-lapping. Resources being limited everywhere, the youth activities should be co-ordinated. The youth policy of every country should grow out of the experience of that country and should be consistent with its social and economic goals. It should provide a firm basis for the development of youth and its participation in society. The corner-stone of such policy should be self-help and co-operation, and development of personality and civic responsibility. I hope you will have a fruitful exchange of views at this meeting on this vital subject.

I should like to express my deep appreciation to the Commonwealth Secretary-General, Mr. Ramphal, and his colleagues for their contribution through the Commonwealth Youth Programme to bring about a social awareness among the Commonwealth countries of the problems facing young people and for providing a forum for a Commonwealth exchange of experiences and ideas on effective utilisation of 'youth power' for national development.

I have great pleasure in inaugurating this meeting.
I wish it every success.

Appendix B

Summaries

of the Country Papers Submitted

by delegates to the meeting

AUSTRALIA

1. Problems

The most pressing problem confronting young people in Australia is unemployment. Since the onset of recession in 1974, Australia has suffered from high rates of unemployment, of which youth unemployment constitutes a major portion. While 7% of the total work force were unemployed in January 1978, 23% of those aged between 15 and 19 were unemployed.

While the general employment situation now appears to be stabilising, high youth unemployment levels will continue into the 1980s. Efforts to confront the problem have largely centred around disadvantaged youth - those who left school early or who otherwise have low standing in the labour market.

2. Principles of youth policy

Australia has not normally followed policies tailored for specific client groups, such as women or young people, but has followed policies for functional areas, such as education and health. Of late, however, this emphasis - while not overturned - has begun to change. Rather than establish major client group policies, Australia has chosen to facilitate the various transitions young people progress through on the road to adulthood. The best use of functional policy, as it affects a particular group such as young people, is the aim.

To ensure that policy is properly formed, the Australian Government seeks better consultation and co-ordination between Government and non-government agencies involved in the delivery of services to youth, and seeks also better channels of communication with young people.

3. Structures

As recognition of the pressing problem of youth unemployment, the Australian Government established a Department of Employment and Youth Affairs under a Minister of Cabinet rank, at the end of 1978.

The Department is also responsible for cultivating the consultation and co-ordination referred to earlier, in seeking the greater involvement of young people in the decision-making process. A National Youth Advisory Group was established in March 1979, to advise the Minister of Employment and Youth Affairs on youth related matters generally. Members of the group are, for the most part, under 30, and represent Australia's ethnic, geographical and cultural diversity, as well as both sexes.

In addition, a National Youth Conference will be held in October 1979 to assist the further development of youth-related policy. The Conference will consider education, training and employment; the rights and responsibilities of young people; access to Government by young people; and the question, "where is youth going?"

BANGLADESH

1. Problems

In Bangladesh, the urgency of the development effort concerns the entire population. Among young people, the single, most immediate problem is youth unemployment. The problem is particularly acute in both the urban areas among educated school leavers, and in the rural areas where many families have little or no room for agriculture or agricultural development. Since 90% of Bangladesh's population lives in the rural areas, it is there that deprivation is most apparent. There is no solution in sight.

2. Principles of youth policy

The principles that motivate the Bangladesh development effort also inform the provisions made for young people. Particular attention is given to the struggle against youth unemployment. While cultural and sporting activities are not neglected, it is felt that leisure activities have no meaning for those who have little to do from dawn to dusk as part of a precarious life. "How to rescue the young people from this sense of despondency and build hope for a brighter future seems to be the heart of the problem."

3. Structures

The contribution of young people to the overall development effort has been sought through the following four channels: 1. the National Youth Service Project; 2. the Socio-Economic Programme for Youth; 3. population-control activities for out-of-school youth; and 4. Youth Welfare Centres initiated and operated by the Department of Social Welfare.

In the rural area, a pilot for an eventual rural youth programme commenced in January 1979. The pilot is principally concerned with serving literate but unemployed youth.

In order better to co-ordinate youth policy, the Government of Bangladesh has recently constituted a separate Ministry of Youth Services Development. Youth services are provided by several Ministries and Departments - such as Education, Local Government and Co-operatives, Sports and Culture, Social Welfare, Manpower and Employment, and Tourism. The new Ministry has a range of functions, including the co-ordination of youth services provided by other Ministries and Departments, with a target age group of 14-25. To assist in the formulation of youth policy, an Advisory Committee has been established within the Ministry.

BARBADOS

1. Problems

In Barbados, 60% of the population is under 25. Unemployment is highest among the age group 14-25. One factor in the growing youth unemployment is the direction of education and the expectations it creates.

Another major problem is the number of teenage pregnancies.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Ministry of Labour and Community Services which is responsible for youth affairs has stated that the Government "needs no convincing that there is an urgent need to accelerate the processes of change which would create meaningful economic activity for many more of our youth." The direction of the education system is also recognised. "Young people must be trained to fill the vacancies for skilled persons created by a rejuvenated economy instead of constituting as at present a vast reservoir of untrained and unused talent."

An underlying principle of youth policy is the desirability of having young people involved in the process of policy formulation. The ruling Barbados Labour Party regards this as "an important aspect of the Party's plan to mobilise this dynamic segment of the community to perform to the maximum of its energies and abilities."

3. Structures

With regard to the formulation of youth policy, the Labour Party has pledged to "create a National Youth Congress to advise Government on all matters relating to youth affairs." The Government now has this proposal under consideration, but no detailed plans have as yet been developed.

Meanwhile, a process of consultation with youth organisations continues. The Barbados Youth Council is represented on the National Council for Culture and on the Council of the Barbados Family Planning Association. The appointment of youth representatives to other bodies is also under consideration.

In order to provide maximum service, the community service offered by the youth affairs division has been merged with the community development division. At the moment, six ministries are associated with youth services. The youth affairs division comes under the Ministry of Labour and Community Services; the other Ministries are Education and Culture, Agriculture, Health and National Insurance, Trade, and the Attorney General's Ministry.

Encouragement by the community development division of the Ministry of Labour and Community Services for young people to become self-reliant and undertake self-employment is augmented by training schemes and community development projects.

Youth training centres, to be sited in existing community centres, will provide short-term training in a variety of vocational and agricultural skills. The Organisation of American States has provided consultancy services for this area of policy implementation.

The Ministry of Labour and Community Services also administers the United Nations Fund for Population Activity Project. It is designed to increase education on family life and population matters. In addition, the Barbados Family Planning Association (which receives financial assistance from the Government) is fielding a full programme of educational activities. Finally, the Ministry of Labour and Community Services is considering the establishment of a special youth centre to deal with the health problems of the young.

BOTSWANA

1. Problems

The present education system in Botswana is inconsistent with the needs of the nation. School-leavers are not suited to the employment available, and youth unemployment is in any case a growing problem.

Coupled with these basic problems are the lack of trained personnel in youth work, some districts not having even a single youth worker; the absence of sufficient funding to support any worthwhile youth projects; the lack of parental co-operation; and the increase in vandalism, especially in towns, and violence in the form of karate during "stray disorganised struts at cinemas and shopping centres".

2. Principles of youth policy

According to the Botswana Country Paper, "there is no policy that could be observed or used to direct youth programmes. Because of lack of a national youth policy it is difficult to negotiate enough funds to implement youth projects. The Botswana National Youth Council is, however, contemplating a conference at which a closer examination of national youth policy will be made".

The Botswana National Youth Council has, however, begun to identify projects that could train young people in vocational skills, and the establishment of producer co-operatives.

3. Structures

The Botswana National Youth Council was established in 1974, with the objectives of advising Government on youth affairs; to co-ordinate and plan youth activities, with an emphasis on young people who are jobless; to provide a channel for the disbursement of funds related to youth affairs; to encourage the active participation of young people in national development; and to seek to eliminate unemployment and to alleviate its ill-effects.

The organisational structure has at its apex the Minister of Local Government and Lands; below him is the Permanent Secretary and the Division of Social Work and Community Development with its Youth Section. Below the Division are regional youth councils, each of which is responsible for a number of area youth clubs.

It is hoped that by 1980 all 13 district and town councils will have at least one qualified youth worker.

Every village or town ward sends a delegate to the district youth council and, in August every year, at least one delegate at district level attends the National Youth Council meeting. At this meeting the Council Executive is elected. This Executive, together with the Ministry of Local Government and Lands, is charged with the implementation of the youth programme objectives.

BRITAIN

1. Problems

Youth unemployment has been recognised as a special problem requiring special measures.

In addition, there is growing national concern over the responsiveness of education and its relationship to eventual employment. The education debate ranges widely, touching on all aspects of the school curriculum and academic standards.

Traditionally, in Britain, there has been an administrative demarcation between education on the one hand, and training and work on the other. The need for closer rapprochement has recently been identified and collaboration between administrative units is increasing.

2. Principles of youth policy

Such joint approaches between, for example, the Department of Education and Science and the Manpower Services Commission mark a departure from historic inhibitions and represent a new element in youth policy.

Youth policy has never been a specialised function but, rather, an aggregate of a large number of social policies. Special reference may be given to youth within the wider contexts of various social policies - such as education, housing and employment.

3. Structures

Because of such pluralistic and pragmatic approaches, there is no minister or special government agency charged with overall responsibility for youth affairs. It is accepted, however, that all government agencies should recognise the needs of youth and that vigorous policies for youth might well span the interests of several Government agencies.

In order to advance the cause of youth participation in national affairs, by involvement of the young in democratic structures, the Department of Education and Science supports a number of projects. These include support for the British Youth Council and the Youth Charter 2000 project to study and develop local youth councils; support for various organisations in projects to do with the dissemination of political and social education materials; studies of ways to increase the skill of young people in decision-making; and testing of ways to increase social responsibility among the young.

It should be stressed that these are basically projects of preparation for young people. There are no exclusive channels whereby the young can participate in national affairs; rather they are encouraged to make use of the overall democratic processes.

Because of the severity of youth unemployment, however, a special long-term Youth Opportunities Programme has been established by the Manpower Services Commission. The Programme aims to benefit those aged between 16-19, who are school-leavers unable to find employment after six weeks. The target is to provide 230,000 opportunities in the course of a year. These opportunities provide a process of induction into working life, periods of training and advice on increasing personal 'employability'. Employability is the basic aim of the programme's various units, rather than the creation of permanent jobs. For this the programme has a budget of £140 million for 1978-79.

CYPRUS

1. Problems

The occupation in 1974 of Cyprus by Turkish forces created four major problems. Firstly, morale was lowered as a sense of injustice overtook the young, as well as concern for lost friends and uprooted families.

Secondly, educational problems were engendered, with 40% of all schools and libraries having fallen into alien hands.

Thirdly, with 70% of the island's economic resources captured, unemployment soared - with 50% of those unemployed within the age group 14-25. Industrial output fell by 50%, mineral output by 56%, and transport and communications were disrupted and social services severely curtailed.

Finally and most importantly, large numbers of young Cypriots were killed or went missing.

2. Principles of youth policy

It was natural that the young should be seen as a major force of survival and reconstruction. The Government of Cyprus recognises this and a number of Ministries have launched youth programmes which promote the welfare of youth and activities for self-development and community development.

3. Structures

The Ministry of Labour and Social Services has established a number of youth centres which encourage participation by the young in community action; a retraining scheme for high school graduates; an apprenticeship training scheme; (in association with the UNDP) a Hotel and Catering Institute; and (in association with UNESCO and ILO) a Higher Technical Institute.

The Ministry of Education has established several institutes for foreign languages and evening classes; a teachers' training college; and has reorganised adult education centres. Vocational guidance for school-leavers, and the Cyprus Organisation for Sports continue their pre-invasion activities; and youth clubs operate in most schools.

The Ministry of Agriculture has established a number of Rural Girls Clubs and Vocational Agricultural Centres; while the Ministry of Health has established a School of Nursing and Midwifery.

The activities of non-governmental organisations involved in youth work, such as the Cyprus Red Cross, the Scouts, and church groups are encouraged by the Government. In order to encourage them and to give them a role in youth policy formulation, the National Social Welfare Council has been reactivated, and the Inter-ministerial Youth Committee - the co-ordinating and planning body for Government youth policies - has extended its activities to encompass non-governmental organisations.

DOMINICA

1. Problems

Several constraints have hindered youth development in Dominica. These have included a rising youth population, growing youth unemployment, inappropriate educational curricula, and the lack of adequate financial resources to provide training in necessary skills and encourage entrepreneurial talent and self-employment.

Youth unemployment is a growing problem. 90% of all school-leavers cannot find work. 60% of all unemployed are under 25 years of age.

Such massive unemployment among the young causes insecure family life, drug addiction, mental illness, social rebellion, overcrowding and health problems.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Government of Dominica established a Youth Development Division in 1972, charged with discovering the abilities and initiatives of the young; improving these qualities through education and training; constructing cultural outlets; and seeking to widen opportunities for employment, as well as encouraging the young to participate in the economic, social and political development of the State. Accordingly, the Division's programme has four policy emphases: leadership development, cultural development, vocational training, and visits to youth groups. In addition, there is an emphasis on agriculture through the 4H clubs.

3. Structures

In order to facilitate youth participation, representation is given to Dominican youth groups through the National Youth Council. Youth representation also exists on the 4H Management Committee; the Advisory Committee of the Extra-mural Department of the University of the West Indies; the Dominica Education Board; the Film Censor Board; the Dominica Broadcasting Service, and the Children and Young Persons Committee.

Young entrepreneurs play a large part in the nation's economic development, through industrial, agricultural and co-operative enterprises. The Government is working with co-operative societies in order to integrate co-operative education into school curricula.

There is a need, however, for additional funding, in order to give adequate support to new entrepreneurial ventures. The active creation of self-employment opportunities is an important strategy, simply because there is otherwise insufficient employment available. Even though agriculture accounts for 70% of the GNP and 60 - 70% of total export earnings, no substantial employment opportunities are available in agriculture. The young merely turn to it because there is nowhere to turn when enquiries in other sectors prove fruitless.

THE GAMBIA

1. Problems

Problems affecting young people in The Gambia centre around the growth of youth unemployment and its contributing cause of inappropriate education. As well as the irrelevance of school curricula, and the expensive nature of western-style education, there is also an insufficiency of schools - so that education is not only irrelevant and costly but available on a limited basis.

Large numbers never reach secondary or technical schools but, of those who drop out, very few return to the farm or traditional family work because of the values and aspirations already developed at school.

Accordingly, eight specific problem areas have been identified: poverty; unemployment; rural-urban migration; high illiteracy; the need for rural development; the problems of school leavers; the need for relevant, low-cost technology; and the re-establishment of cultural values.

2. Principles of youth policy

A Department of Youth, Sports and Culture was established in 1974, under the aegis of the Ministry of Education, since "it is a known fact that most of the human development problems we are facing, particularly in the field of youth, emerged out of the education system we inherited".

The need for planned attention to the problems and aspirations of youth became apparent since "no meaningful development can readily take place ... without the total participation of the ablest sector of the population - the youth". A number of fundamental planning principles were listed, including the need for integrated planning and co-ordinating machinery to include a number of government ministries, the need for recognition of the role of voluntary youth organisations, and the need for participation of the young in national affairs and decision-making.

There are problems attendant on action deriving from these principles. Firstly, there is the inadequacy of funds and, secondly, there is an under-utilisation of voluntary youth organisations in the alleviation of youth unemployment.

3. Structures

Nevertheless, a series of training programmes has been envisaged, complementary to those already sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and other agencies. These aim to provide non-formal education to young people in areas not as yet catered for.

A specific effort to make rural life attractive to the young is underway. A number of employment schemes are planned, as well as some adaption of the Kenya Village Polytechnic programme. The establishment of rural youth development centres, to provide training for rural life, is proceeding - with two pilot sites selected for the next three years. In existence also are 208 young farmers' clubs, established by the Department of Agriculture, with access to training in 21 mixed farming centres.

A multi-purpose Youth Training Institute is being established on the site of an already existing college, to train young people to professional level in a variety of relevant skills. This institute will also serve as a centre for the appreciation of culture and the inculcation of national character.

There are also plans to adapt two of the three existing vocational training centres to meet the needs of the rural areas.

GHANA

1. Problems

The Government of Ghana is concerned with the seeming structural inadequacies of its present administrative provisions for youth. Because none of the registered youth associations (with the exception of the National Union of Ghana Students) enjoys representation on the Board of Trustees of the National Youth Council, a feeling of alienation has developed between these associations and the Council under which, by law, they are required to register.

The Council, moreover, being confined to the formulation of policy for the guidance of more than 600 youth associations, exercises no sway over non-organised youth.

In addition, there is no agency or body, the National Youth Council notwithstanding, that has been acknowledged as having a co-ordinating role in the field of youth affairs - a field that now involves the Ghana National Reconstruction Corps, the Arts Council, the Ministry of Education, and The Department of Social Welfare and Community Development.

Finally, the individual youth associations are not very strong financially, receiving insufficient Government funds to realise their programmes and aspirations. There is insufficient vocational training, growing youth unemployment, a mounting rural-urban drift, and inadequate transportation and tools for those young people who are trained.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Ghana Country Paper concentrates on the principles behind and the structure of the National Youth Council. The need for radical reconstruction of the Council has been recognised by the Government, however, and priority areas are now being identified. They include greater direct representation on the Board of Trustees; the encouragement of entrepreneurial self-support schemes for youth associations; accelerated creation of youth co-operatives, expansion of community youth farms, workshops and vocational training; and the establishment of a recognised co-ordinating agency for youth affairs - such as a new Ministry.

In the meantime, the existing National Youth Council acts as an affiliating and guiding body. Registration under the Council is compulsory, thereby exposing all youth associations to wider experiences and orientations.

Current, major objectives of national youth policy include the provision of civic education programmes for youth leaders, skills training to promote employability, re-settlement programmes in rural areas, and the promotion of the spirit of community participation.

3. Structures

At present, the apex organisation in youth affairs is the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare. The sub-structure consists of the Board of Trustees of the National Youth Council, the Council itself, and regional as well as district youth committees. At all levels, the Commissioner responsible for youth affairs exercises a right to appoint Council and committee members.

GUYANA

1. Problems

The context of Guyanese youth policy is found in a speech made by the Prime Minister, the Hon. L.F.S. Burnham: "The social, economic, political and other problems of youth are not peculiar youth problems, but problems of the society in which the youths find themselves."

2. Principles of youth policy

Accordingly, the Guyana Country Paper explains that in the light of Guyana's "limited financial and technical resources our youth policy has not been developed as a separate and distinct entity, but as part of a total plan that is designed to make the Nation and its young people self-reliant, productive, and responsive to the strategies for national development."

Because the economic development of Guyana depends heavily on agricultural development, young people are involved in programmes to remove the stigma of agriculture as a profession and in the establishment of co-operatives. The Youth Division of the Ministry of National Development, while fielding a range of programmes to do with the organisation of young people, the removal of social barriers among them, the provision of training for development and the provision of technical assistance, nevertheless emphasises rural youth work through the introduction of F.C.H. Clubs (comparable to 4H Clubs) with their concentrations on self-reliance and vocational training. Finally, owing to the fact that Guyana is a multi-racial society, the nation's youth programme stresses the need for national unity.

3. Structures

One major instrument for the cause of national unity is the Guyana National Service. Established in 1973, it gives both a national orientation to its members and imparts training and new skills to them. In turn, the National Service mobilises support for the cause of feeding, clothing and housing the people of Guyana.

Apart from the National Service, the aspirations of young people are catered for not only by the Youth Division of the Ministry of National Development, but by the Ministries of Education, Social Development and Culture, Agriculture, and Information and Sports. These various agencies provide funds for the implementation of specific youth programmes. Funds are scarce, however, and some projects have been forced to close for want of sufficient finance.

GRENADA

National youth policy in Grenada may now have changed, owing to the revolution which ushered in a new government and the active role many young people played in it. At the time of the Chandigarh meeting, however, the following information was presented in the Grenada Country Paper.

1. Problems

Unemployment affects a large number of young people. This is compounded by the irrelevance of the education system, the lack of incentives for cultural performances, and the few avenues for the marketing of local arts and crafts.

Agriculture is one sector with most potential for absorbing unemployment, and there are opportunities particularly for self-employment in this area. The stigma of agricultural labour, however, growing out of its former association with slavery, results in few young people wishing to take up agricultural work. Even without such social and psychological obstacles is the fact that great uncertainty exists as to the development of markets for agricultural produce.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Government established nine guidelines for policy: a positive approach to the total development of the individual; the remedying of disease and delinquency; the continuation of such positive approaches to all aspects of life; the encouragement of young people to participate in all activities for their benefit; the integration of youth development strategy with strategy for national development; the establishment of training programmes for youth leaders; the establishment of national service; the development of vocational training for out-of-school youth; and the encouragement to form more youth groups.

3. Structures

The Ministry of Youth, established in 1970, comprised five staff members with a variety of duties to do with the translation of Government youth policy into reality; co-ordination and liaison with youth groups; and the organisation of leadership training courses.

In addition, voluntary youth groups were encouraged to form themselves into parish committees for greater co-ordination of their activities.

INDIA

1. Problems

In India 75% of those between 15-35 reside in rural areas and most of them are illiterate. Even those who are literate have not received an education beyond elementary level. The vast majority of young people lead lives of poverty and deprivation. Women, because of ingrained attitudes of male superiority, are at a further disadvantage. Persons of the lowest caste and tribal people in the rural areas continue to suffer even greater disadvantages.

2. Principles of youth policy

Poverty and illiteracy are regarded as two aspects of the same enormous problem. The struggle to overcome one cannot be waged without struggle against the other.

3. Structures

The National Adult Education Programme is visualised as a means of bringing about fundamental change in the process of socio-economic development. This highly ambitious programme seeks, within five years, the extension of education facilities to "the entire illiterate population of approximately 100 million in 15-35 age group".

The Central Social Welfare Board, an autonomous organisation established by the central government, finances voluntary agencies involved in providing programmes of continuing education for young women. Various types of courses are provided for rural women who are paid a monthly maintenance grant.

There are 150 farmers' training institutes throughout the country, operating primarily for young farmers. These provide residential courses lasting 4-7 days.

Non-student youth have an opportunity for involvement in development through the Nehru Yuvak Kendras (Nehru Youth Centres). There are at present 200 such Centres with a total of 400 originally planned (one for each district). These exist to provide co-ordination of various existing official and non-official agencies. The Youth Co-ordinator attached to each is selected on the advice of the state government and given intensive training. The Centres also organise a variety of programmes, including vocational training. The Centres are now to be closely linked to the National Adult Education Programme.

Three other major schemes should be mentioned. Firstly, there are the Youth Clubs and Young Women's Clubs which are supported by the Department of Rural Development of the Central Ministry of Culture. These clubs, each of which has a paid part-time worker, receive programme support from the Nehru Yuvak Kendras. Secondly, there are programmes for student youth, including the National Service Scheme. This is intended primarily as a way of involving undergraduates in community work. Units of the National Service

adopt villages and establish medical centres, agricultural training, and vocational training for women. They are active also in urban slums and in the wake of natural disasters. Thirdly, there is the National Cadet Corps, for male students, concerned with training for disciplined leadership. Both the National Service and the Cadet Corps may be joined on a voluntary basis.

All the programmes outlined above, and many others, are undertaken by a variety of ministries. There is no separate and distinct machinery for youth programmes. In fact, most youth programmes - whether public or private - are the result of decentralised efforts, and include those originated and developed by the initiative of the young themselves.

The nodal ministry of youth affairs is the Ministry of Education, which has a Division of Youth Affairs.

The recent constitution of the National Youth Board provides a new thrust towards further co-ordination and policy advice. The Board's composition includes representatives from various ministries and state governments, Members of Parliament, student leaders and youth workers. So far, the Board has met only once, but has decided to undertake a thorough appraisal of existing programmes.

KENYA

1. Principles of youth policy

The National Youth Programme of Kenya was launched with a deliberate focus on one major aspect of youth development, "namely the economic aspect". This has been necessitated because of the gap between education and employment. In order to provide young Kenyans with further, more relevant training, the already successful Village Polytechnic Programme has been broadened into the Youth Development Programme - which allows for the inclusion of all youth training initiatives which meet the Government's policy objectives.

All Kenyan youth programmes are based on two major objectives: to enable the young to use their talents for the benefit of the rural communities in which they live; and to enable young people to develop income earning opportunities for themselves - as individuals, groups or co-operatives.

2. Structures

As technical back-up to the Youth Development Programme, the Kenyan Government has established a Centre for Research and Training. The Centre has surveyed employment patterns in the rural areas of Kenya, and sought to identify employment opportunities which can be expanded at low cost and through short courses.

In order to ensure proper co-ordination in youth work, a National Co-ordinating Committee has been established, with sub-committees concerned with research and training, and project finance. The Co-ordinating Committee does in fact take responsibility for the co-ordination of all national youth organisations, whether governmental or voluntary.

Two youth organisations exist under the Ministry of Agriculture. These are the 4K Clubs - which seek to develop greater agricultural skills and commitment among primary school pupils - and the Young Farmers' Association which caters for the higher grades in secondary schools.

The Ministry of Labour has been responsible for the National Youth Service since 1964. The Service now comes under the Office of the President. Young citizens, 16-30, carry out development projects in a disciplined environment. In its first ten years, the Service enrolled over 20,000 young people, laid 2,000 kilometres of road, cleared 8,000 hectares of bush, and planted over 100,000 trees.

The voluntary youth organizations of Kenya are also co-ordinated by a National Standing Committee on Youth - part of the Kenya National Council of Social Service - which sets aside one week a year as Harambee Youth Week, in which young people from all parts of the country participate in different development projects.

Many other structures exist in Kenya to further youth affairs. These include a fully-fledged youth wing of the ruling KANU Party.

LESOTHO

1. Problems

More than three quarters of Lesotho's population of 1,000,000 is regarded as youth. A very high percentage of the young work in the mines of the Republic of South Africa. The drift of these young men to the larger Republic causes many ill-effects in Lesotho: agricultural development is impaired; low, discriminatory wages in South Africa, as well as uncertain nature of employment continuity there, reduce any incomes benefit from migratory manpower; protracted absences result in divorces and delinquency.

2. Principles of youth policy

Clearly Lesotho must develop its human capital in order to further its economic advancement. Promotion of education and training as a means of creating skills and aptitude is therefore seen as a focal point of development strategy.

Lesotho hopes to attain an average annual rate of growth in GDP of not less than 10% in order to enhance youth development programmes and achieve other national aspirations. Agricultural development is essential, and efforts are being launched to make agriculture a respectable and rewarding vocation.

One over-riding consideration, in mobilising the opinion and commitment of young people, is the ensuring of direct involvement and participation of the young in national planning and policy implementation.

3. Structures

Accordingly, the Government is seeking, through the Department of Youth Affairs, the Ministry of Education, and the National University of Lesotho, as well as other agencies, to inculcate awareness among young people that the development of their country is their own responsibility. A National Youth Council is in the process of formation; the Department of Youth Affairs - under the Prime Minister's Private Office - is ensuring adequate legislative safeguards in youth matters.

A number of youth organisations are engaged in youth activities in Lesotho. These include Young Farmers Clubs - of which there are 102 with a total of 4,000 members averaging an age of 13 years. There is also the Lesotho Youth Service, founded as a direct result of the Prime Minister, Dr. Jonathan's personal concerns for youth and the experiences gained from his travels. The Service provides varied training for young people - including leadership training and training for self-employment.

MALAYSIA

1. Problems

The aim of Malaysian youth services was to prevent young people "from falling prey to the influence of undesirable elements and engaging in detrimental activities."

2. Principles of youth policy

After independence, the Government created a special agency to be responsible for young people and ensure their participation in national development. This was the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports. Its policy has been to promote membership of organised youth groups - with the provision of support and facilities for the groups - as a means of facilitating inter-action between the young and the Government. The strategy is one of partnership and the Government does not seek to interfere in the administration of the groups.

With the principle of partnership in mind, the Government is actively inaugurating programmes of employment creation in the fields of business, agriculture and co-operatives. This is out of concern for economic problems of the young - as epitomised by growing youth unemployment.

3. Structures

The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports provides both finance and guidance to youth organisations who, in turn, mobilise their members to undertake activities in various fields. These include employment-creation activities - Government provision for which includes a range of supportive mechanisms, of which finance is only one. The initiative for and eventual success of each operation, however, depends on the young people concerned.

The Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports heads a tiered structure with State Youth Offices and District Youth Offices below it. These are complemented, in turn, by the National Youth Council, State Youth Councils and District Youth Councils.

The views and grievances of youth may be aired through the National Youth Consultative Council, which comprises representatives elected by national youth conventions.

MALTA

1. Problems

With the growing proportion of young people between the ages 15-29 (now 30% of the total population), Malta has a large group which requires attention in order that national economic and social development might progress satisfactorily.

2. Principles of youth policy

The education system of Malta has been re-oriented to the interests of the country. In particular, important measures have been taken in tertiary education. These include the introduction of a student-worker scheme, whereby students will be employees of public or commercial organisations - which will require their services after graduation. The periods of actual study are interspersed with periods of work.

Three emergency labour corps have also been established, which provide the young unemployed with emergency employment.

3. Structures

There has been no specific co-ordinating governmental body for youth affairs. Plans are now being studied, however, for a National Youth Council which will comprise representatives of the various youth organizations.

It is through the Ministries of Education, Labour, Welfare and Culture, and Works and Sports, that youth policies are at present being implemented.

NEW ZEALAND

1. Problems

The major concern of those associated with youth policies in New Zealand is unemployment. Though the proportion of unemployed youth to the total labour force is small and, by international standards, low, it has nevertheless been increasing over recent years. At the end of 1978 the number of registered unemployed was 23,144; of these 18,607 were under the age of 30.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Government recognises the need to confront the problem and has developed through the Departments of Labour, Internal Affairs, and Education a number of programmes to assist young people to enter the workforce. These do not detract from longstanding Government policy to encourage young people to take their place in society generally, while defining their own needs and seeking their own solutions to problems they encounter. In developing programmes, the Government has maintained a close liaison with the National Youth Council.

3. Structures

In New Zealand the Minister of Recreation and Sport is responsible for Government policy on youth. This involves a great deal of liaison with other Government Departments. It also involves close co-operation with the National Youth Council which affiliates 40 national voluntary youth organisations.

The Ministry of Recreation and Sport has provided \$3m. as grants to youth organisations for administrative purposes and leadership training. The Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries has made available one quarter of a million dollars for farm cadet training and young farmers' organisations.

The Government is also continuing to provide youth representation on a number of boards and committees particularly in the field of social welfare.

With regard to job-creation, the Government has introduced a number of programmes during the last eighteen months. These include the provision of subsidies to private sector employers; a farm employment scheme and a number of specific programmes for Maori and Pacific Island youth; a Temporary Employment Programme, providing work on low priority or deferred projects undertaken by local government authorities and non-profit organisations and a Student Community Service Programme, providing additional work projects mounted by local authorities and community organisations. The total cost of the wages for the last two programmes is provided by the Government.

The New Zealand government operates a detached youth worker scheme to support innovative youth projects and youth work not falling within the bounds of normal programmes or normal employment.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

1. Problems

Papua New Guinea lacks a single central body for the co-ordination of youth programmes and the collection of accurate data. Without such statistics it is difficult to plan youth development. Investigations were carried out between 1972 and 1976 but very few of the recommendations have been put into practice because the studies were themselves badly co-ordinated. In addition to the lack of planning there is the growing problem of youth unemployment and the disillusion that has grown from it, resulting in many young people turning to criminal acts and unsocial behaviour.

2. Principles of youth policy

Following a National Conference on Youth Development the following four objectives were adopted:

1. to foster human development spiritually, physically, mentally, socially and culturally;
2. to create a healthy equitable environment in which human development may flourish;
3. to promote opportunities through recreation, education, training and other services for the integration of young people into the community;
4. through these opportunities to promote qualities of good citizenship which include self-respect, reliability, discipline, industry, determination, initiative, stability, independence and self-reliance.

In addition, the major responsibilities of the National Youth Council are to formulate national youth policy based on the resources and development of Papua New Guinea.

3. Structures

The National Youth Council was established in 1978. It has fifteen members who serve together as an independent advisory body in youth policy to the Minister of Home Affairs. The Council also serves as a funding agency for youth programmes. The formation and funding of the Council has been supported through the Government's National Public Expenditure Plan. This Plan also provides support for projects established by the Council. The National Youth Council is to be supplemented by provincial youth councils which will provide a structure for policy development and project co-ordination.

The National Youth Council has a number of goals including the development of training facilities for the teaching of skills that are relevant to local communities and the stimulation of support for

self-employment schemes.

The National Youth Council still requires more time in which to consolidate its activities and to base them on constructive research. Debate is now taking place however, regarding the formation of a National Youth Service which could have a para-military structure, operating as a civic service to strengthen the efforts of voluntary and Government agencies. The debate has revolved around whether the Youth Service should in fact have a para-military structure, although the need for such a Service has been generally recognised.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

1. Problems

In the Solomon Islands only a small number of young people between the ages of 10-15 are fortunate enough to obtain places in the nation's secondary schools.

Youth work in the Solomon Islands is not at present properly co-ordinated. Such co-ordination as there is relying principally on the activities of various church groups. Of recent times a National Youth Council has been established to affiliate and co-ordinate the 200 different youth groups in the country. Progress has been slow due to the lack of full-time staff and financial support. Because of this no policy on youth development has yet been established.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Government is conscious of the need for youth policy and has requested information from the eight provincial assemblies and various associations and individuals which could assist in the drawing up of such a policy. It is envisaged that policy would provide for programmes of training, particularly training oriented towards rural development; an infrastructure at national, provincial and local levels for the promotion of youth activities; co-ordination of the various structures now existing in Government, the Church and other organisations, for the provision of youth services; the provision of necessary support for the National Youth Council; programmes to make the rural areas more attractive in order to reverse the rural urban drift.

3. Structures

The National Youth Council is an independent body but comes under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Cultural Affairs.

1. Problems

Youth unemployment is a growing problem in Sri Lanka. Since the 1960s the education system has released into the labour market increasing numbers of educated youth who are largely unwilling to accept the socio-economic environment to which their parents have been accustomed. The growth of the economy, however, has failed to keep pace with this large influx of young people onto the employment market.

In addition to the backlog of unemployed young people that this has caused, an additional 150,000 young people will now enter the labour force each year.

2. Principles of youth policy

For this reason the Government of Sri Lanka has given much consideration to youth affairs. The Government proposes to establish a Sri Lanka Youth Movement designed to recruit young people for a period of time in national development service, to impart training in decision-making and to instil a sense of national patriotism.

3. Structure

In 1978 a separate Ministry of Youth Affairs and Employment was created. It has responsibility for providing a Youth Service Programme in the country and the preparation of young people for employment. Three institutions come under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Employment. Firstly there is the National Youth Service Council which came into being in 1976. It organises on a voluntary basis, a large variety of national service projects and also provides an increasing range of unemployment opportunities for young people by the constructive investment of Government funds. The two major aspects of training by the Council fall into the categories of employment training & civic training. The Council maintains several residential training centres for agricultural training and training in cottage industries. Of the job-oriented projects the most conspicuous is the programme, Youth In Business, which seeks to harness the resources of both the public and private sectors in promoting self-employment opportunities.

Secondly there is the National Development Service which began as a branch of the National Youth Service Council. It gained independent status in 1978 in order to emphasise training conducted in a spirit of national consciousness and in a disciplined manner. Thirdly, there is the National Apprenticeship Board which was established in 1979 to provide skilled manpower for the nation's industrial development. Again, a wide variety of training schemes have been launched to cover over 140 trade and engineering disciplines. The Board also applies uniform apprenticeship standards and issues certificates to those who have qualified.

Among the voluntary youth organisations which exist in Sri Lanka, the most prominent is the Sarvodaya Movement. This is a rural reconstruction movement having a high proportion of youth participation and founded on a moral and spiritual base.

TANZANIA

1. Problems

Youth unemployment is a growing problem in Tanzania. This is aggravated by the drift from the countryside into urban areas. There is therefore a great need to plan economic and income earning projects for young people in the rural areas in order to encourage them to remain in the villages.

2. Principles of youth policy

Tanzania is most conscious of the need for a complementary approach to national youth policy. On the one hand there is the necessity to promote economic and cultural advancement. On the other is the necessity to promote political awareness among the young. Consequently youth affairs in Tanzania are governed by the Ministry of National Culture and Youth, and the political interests of the young are catered for by the Youth Organisation of the Tanzanian Revolutionary Party.

3. Structures

The Government has adopted a great number of activities related to national youth policy under the current five year plan. These include the construction of cultural centres in all major towns; the establishment of both small and large-scale income-earning projects through the formation of youth co-operatives; the increased provision of training for young people; and collaboration between the Ministry and the youth wing of the Party to carry out programmes of political and cultural education to encourage young people in the role the nation expects them to play in national development.

In every region and district the Ministry of National Culture and Youth is represented by regional and district cultural officers together with supporting staff. In a complementary fashion, the youth wing of the Party also maintains regional and district youth leaders.

In carrying out economic projects the Ministry of Culture and Youth has established a number of guidelines and procedures. These limit "production groups" to a total of fifty young people drawn from two villages. The young people involved subscribe their own financial resources augmented by any parental assistance available. At least one acre per participant is allocated by local authorities in the case of agricultural projects. Planning assistance is given by the Ministry's District Cultural Officer. Such economic projects are not distinct from the life of the community in General. District or Regional Government authorities assist in the provision of seed, fertilisers and even ploughing facilities. Projects that are particularly successful can apply through the Ministry for additional assistance from the Community Development Trust Fund.

WESTERN SAMOA

1. Problems

Western Samoa has an expanding youth population. In a total population of 152,000 people, 93,000 are under 19. This places a growing strain on existing educational facilities.

The major problem comes when the young people leave school. Youth unemployment is rising, particularly in the urban area, and it is estimated that by 1981 there will be 5,000 unemployed school-leavers in the urban area.

2. Principles of youth policy

The Council for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs is seeking to discover the needs of young people in order to draw up a national plan and programmes for youth; to co-ordinate programmes at a national level; and to co-ordinate the work of voluntary organisations.

The basic aim of the Council in the field of youth is to work with and through the voluntary youth organisations to harness the energy and idealism of youth for national development.

3. Structures

The Council for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs was established in 1976. It has 15 members who act as an advisory body to the Government. At the same time the Government established a Ministry of Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs which provides trained specialists and financial assistance to help the voluntary organisations and to establish training programmes in those areas not covered by voluntary organisations or other Government agencies.

A complementary structure is thus utilised. The Ministry of Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, with its Minister, Secretary and Assistant Secretary, exists side by side with the Council for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, the Chairman of which is the Minister. The joint office of Deputy Chairman and Secretary for Youth, Sports and Cultural Affairs, is held by the Secretary of the Department of Labour. This ensures inter-departmental co-operation in youth affairs. The fifteen members of the Council are broken into three groups of five, representing equally youth, sports and cultural affairs. Beneath this joint-structure are the Western Samoan voluntary organisations and, beneath them, the assorted individuals and village-level youth, sports and cultural affairs groups.

ZAMBIA

1. Problems

Education requires to be reformed in Zambia in order to meet the needs of national development. Allied to this is the problem of youth unemployment: increasing numbers of young people leaving school at various levels of the education system are unable to find work. A great number of these young people lack proper skills and qualifications.

While much discussion and debate has concerned the reform of education, much major work remains to be done. While some changes are able to be implemented immediately, many require long-term application.

2. Principles of youth policy

In 1974 the Ministry of Education embarked upon a long and comprehensive exercise in re-thinking education policy. A draft statement was released in March 1976 and national debate followed, lasting six months. It is now the results of this debate which are being implemented in the short and long-terms described above. The reformed education system intends to provide nine years of good basic education for all children aged 7-16.

The guiding principle of all Zambian society, including education, is humanism. The principle regards all human life as precious, regardless of race, tribe, or ability. The importance and worth of an individual is therefore the central point in the Zambian approach to socialisation of Zambian society.

3. Structures

The Zambian Government has made strenuous efforts to overcome youth unemployment. A number of Rural Reconstruction Centres have been introduced since 1975, reflecting the nation's emphasis on rural development.

The Zambian Government recently established a Ministry responsible for Youth Affairs. Included among its responsibilities is the search for solutions of the youth unemployment problem.

In addition there exists a special Youth and Sports Affairs sub-committee of the Central Committee of the UNIP party. The Central Committee of UNIP is the supreme policy-making body in Zambia. The sub-committee on youth thus provides policy advice on youth affairs at a high level and, because young people are well represented on the sub-committee, it facilitates youth participation in national development.

There is also a National Youth Council which operates under the Party Youth League. 53 districts are represented on the Council and all non-party youth organisations are also represented. At present the Chairman of the National Youth Council is the Minister of Youth and Sports.

Finally, Zambia has a National Service Programme for school-leavers, providing national service of 20 months duration, of which six months are for military instructions while the remaining 14 months are for participation in production schemes.

Appendix C

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