

PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP

P R E F A C E

The Commonwealth African Regional Workshop on National Service and National Youth Programmes was held under the auspices of the Commonwealth Youth Programme to examine national youth programmes and national service schemes and determine future developments and priorities in this field. The Workshop took place at State House, Accra, Ghana from Monday, 24 March to Friday, 4 April 1975. The host was the Government of Ghana.

The Workshop was opened officially by Col. P.K. Agyekum, Commissioner responsible for Labour, Social Welfare and Co-operatives; and the opening session was chaired by Mr. A. Aidoo, Chairman of the Ghana National Youth Council. The Commonwealth Secretary-General was represented by Mr. P.K. Patnaik, Director of the Youth Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat, who delivered an address.

The Workshop was attended by Directors of National Youth Programmes and National Service Programmes from ten African countries, as well as by representatives from India, Jamaica and Malaysia whose participation provided an inter-regional exchange of experience. The ILO was represented in the capacity of observer.

Lead papers, which are reproduced as Chapter 2, were presented by four African scholars in order to provide a background, in the context of national development, for the discussion of the Programmes which were the subject of the Workshop.

Country papers were presented by each of the participating delegations and are reproduced in Appendix I.

This report, including the recommendations for Commonwealth action, was adopted formally at the Closing Session, at which participants expressed their appreciation of the warm hospitality extended by the Government of Ghana.