

## Chapter 5

### RECOMMENDATIONS

#### 5.1 Introduction

Following the presentation and discussion of the lead papers, country statements, and group reports, a small committee was appointed to review the proceedings of the workshop and examine the several questions and observations which had emerged during its course, to identify the outstanding issues, and to submit to the penultimate plenary session a draft in respect of recommendations which the workshop might wish to make. Thus, noting that only a very small proportion of young people come within the ambit of National Service Schemes and National Youth Programmes, and that particularly in rural areas there is need for a substantial effort to be made to expand the reach of such programmes, and considering the serious problems of poverty, under-development and illiteracy, the workshop agreed to make recommendations in three categories:

- (i) To those directly responsible for the planning and operation of National Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes.
- (ii) To Governments.
- (iii) To the Commonwealth Secretariat.

Following are the recommendations.

#### 5.2 Recommendations

##### 5.2.1 Recommendations to those directly responsible for National Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes

- (i) Special effort should be made to ensure that Government policy and plans are fully appreciated, and that machinery should be established to facilitate this and to provide the necessary coordination between different Government departments in those countries where such machinery does not exist.
- (ii) Priority should be given to devising and instituting mechanisms for ensuring the availability of information of relevance to Youth Programmes; and where possible Youth Programme leaders should initiate surveys in fields of their concern which are not adequately treated in the publications of government departments, voluntary agencies, universities, etc.
- (iii) Concerted efforts should be made to achieve functional literacy as an effective pre-requisite for expanding the scope of non-formal education within Youth Programmes.

- (iv) Attention should be directed to expanding the scope of Youth Programmes as well as increasing the number of young people, including handicapped youth, participating in the activities of the Programmes.
- (v) Provision should be made for continuous evaluation of the Programmes internally as well as for external periodic assessment.
- (vi) The potential of women should be given greater recognition, particularly as it relates to development, training, and their role in society.

#### 5.2.2 Recommendations to Commonwealth Governments

- (i) Attention should be given to the need for Youth Programme activities to relate to overall national social and economic policy.
- (ii) Special emphasis should be placed on integrated rural development by National Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes.
- (iii) Adequate provision, including personnel, should be made to enable the desired expansion of Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes to be effected.
- (iv) Technologies appropriate to local conditions and needs might be introduced through Youth Programmes with the cooperation of the various ministries concerned.
- (v) The needs of the individual youth should be given consideration in a way which encourages personal motivation and self-development without jeopardising the national effort towards social and economic progress.
- (vi) Increased support should be given to international exchange of information and personnel in respect of National Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes.

#### 5.2.3 Recommendations to the Commonwealth Secretariat

- (i) A programme of projects should be initiated in particular Commonwealth countries on the development of technologies appropriate to local circumstances.
- (ii) Following the request for youth involvement by the meetings of the Commonwealth Ministers of Health and their counterparts in Agriculture, the Secretariat should make proposals for a coordinated approach in these areas involving the CYP, National Youth Programmes and National Service Schemes.
- (iii) Flexibility should be adopted with regard to age limits in respect of diligent youth workers seeking CYP Fellowships.
- (iv) The CYP should expand its information service, including the distribution of specially commissioned papers and research of regional and sub-regional interest.