

INTRODUCTORY NOTE

Representatives of twelve island member countries of the Commonwealth assembled in Mauritius for two weeks in January 1975 to examine the dimensions of pluralism and its implications for development, with particular reference to island communities.

Participants at the Seminar, which was organised under the Commonwealth Youth Programme, included a wide range of personnel associated with youth work as well as young people themselves, and an attempt was made to explore ways in which young people might contribute towards integrating and furthering the development of their societies.

Dr. James A. Maraj, Commonwealth Assistant Secretary-General, served as Chairman of the Seminar. Lead papers were presented by Prof. L.E. Braithwaite, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, Mr. O. Napier, former Minister for Law Reform in Northern Ireland, the Hon. K. Jagatsingh, Minister of Economic Planning and Development in the Government of Mauritius, and Mr. G. McRobie, Director (Communications) of the Intermediate Technology Development Group.

It is hoped that this report of the first Commonwealth Seminar on this theme will be of value to youth and community development workers throughout the Commonwealth and especially those in plural societies.