

CHAPTER III

THE COMMONWEALTH AND MULTILATERAL ASSISTANCE

Multilateral assistance, as a distinct category of aid which competes with bilateral programmes within given aid ceilings of donor countries, has shown considerable dynamism in recent years. About 24 per cent of net ODA from all DAC countries was channelled in 1973 through multilateral agencies. The comparable figures were only 16 per cent in 1970 and 6 per cent in 1965. As most of the ODA flows to multilateral agencies, compared with a little over 62 per cent of bilateral flows, consist of grants (including capital subscriptions), this shift towards the multilateral sector could have, depending upon the policies of multilateral agencies regarding their disbursements, a softening influence on the overall terms of ODA received by the developing countries. Also disbursements by multilateral agencies are generally untied. On the other hand, experience has shown that major increases in contributions to multilateral agencies often introduce an additional element of time-lag between appropriations and eventual disbursements to the recipients.

Net contributions to the United Nations technical assistance and relief agencies accounted for 7 per cent of total ODA in 1973. Many developing countries, including those in the Commonwealth, which are themselves net recipients of aid, attach considerable importance to these agencies and make significant contributions to them in terms of financial and human resources. However, it is the increased contributions to IDA, and to a lesser extent to the Asian Development Bank, that have been mainly responsible in recent years for the substantially higher flows of ODA to the multilateral institutions. Following the establishment of the African Development Fund in July 1973, which includes donor countries from outside Africa, the DAC members also contributed \$24 million in 1973 to that Fund.

The four major Commonwealth donors, which provide about 16 per cent of ODA going to multilateral institutions, have participated fully in the growth of this sector. In fact, there seems to have been an above-average shift by the Commonwealth donors from bilateral ODA to contributions to multilateral agencies. While Canada has continued to allocate an above-average percentage of its ODA to multilateral channels, Australia, with its rather special relationship with Papua New Guinea, is the only Commonwealth donor which has not so far matched the general trend in this respect. In 1973, the share of multilateral contributions in total ODA provided by Britain, Canada and New Zealand, ranging between 27-32 per cent, was above the 24 per cent average for all DAC countries. The relative increase by the United Kingdom, from 15 per cent of its ODA in 1969 - 1970 to 27 per cent in 1973 going to multilateral agencies, is particularly noticeable.

The geographical pattern of disbursements by multilateral institutions is significantly different from that of bilateral ODA (Tables 21-22). This may or may not have been fully intended by the donors which provide funds to these agencies in the first instance. Moreover, with the relatively more rapid growth in contributions to the multilateral sector, these institutions

would be increasingly important in determining the total size and type of ODA receipts of the individual, or groups of, developing countries. For example, if the average 1971 - 1972 disbursements by the multilateral institutions, irrespective of their terms, were made in the same proportions as the total bilateral ODA, the Commonwealth countries as a group would have received about \$95 million more than they actually did. The increased pledges for the exclusively Commonwealth agencies are as yet too small to affect significantly this situation.

THE COMMONWEALTH FUND FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION (CFTC)

This report will concentrate on the new developments and activities relating to the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) since the last annual report. It will not deal with matters concerning the establishment, organisation and machinery of the Fund, which were fully covered in the reports for 1971 and 1972.

It may be recalled that the CFTC, which is a multilateral development fund, was established within the Commonwealth Secretariat in 1971. Through support obtained from all Commonwealth governments, the Fund functions as a co-operative Commonwealth endeavour. It is engaged in providing a variety of forms of technical assistance, aimed at meeting the developmental priorities of Commonwealth developing countries. In addition to responding to the needs of member developing governments of the Commonwealth, it also offers assistance to states associated with them, governments of dependent territories, and Commonwealth inter-governmental organisations and agencies. These activities complement and supplement aid received through other channels.

The Fund's activities are carried out under three programmes: General Technical Assistance, Export Market Development and Education and Training. The range and extent of assistance given under these programmes continue to expand. The growth of project assistance on an inter and intra-regional basis has also been a marked feature of the Fund's activities throughout the Commonwealth. The continuing demand shown by Commonwealth governments for the expanding services of the Fund, and the corresponding increase in the financial resources being made available by Commonwealth governments, augurs well for the future development of the CFTC.

The Fund recruits its expertise for technical assistance assignments, be they of an advisory or operational nature, from all Commonwealth countries. Considerable emphasis has been placed on securing expertise from developing countries, and by the end of 1973 almost 50 per cent of the long-term experts provided by the Fund came from these countries. A majority of the often more specialised expertise required for short-term assignments still comes from developed Commonwealth countries.

The CFTC has continued to avoid being encumbered in its operations by a large bureaucratic organisation. This makes for more effective and expeditious administration and keeps overhead costs to a minimum. Headquarters expenditure for 1973/74 is reduced to 13.7 per cent of the total Plan of Expenditure, which compares favourably with many other international aid organisations. Moreover, this percentage should decline further in 1974/75 as the total expenditures of the Fund increase. At their meeting in

Ottawa in August 1973, the Heads of Government of Commonwealth countries declared their intention to make maximum use of Commonwealth machinery to accelerate the pace of social and economic development among the less affluent members. The CFTC plays an important role in striving towards this objective, and the Commonwealth leaders recognised this by expressing their appreciation at the way in which the CFTC was developing, and by calling for an intensification of activities through the CFTC. In addition they expressed the hope that further financial contributions would be provided by participant countries.

Resources

Understandably, it is the developed country members of the Fund who are still the major contributors to its resources.

It was at the Heads of Government meeting in Ottawa, that the Canadian Government announced an expanded and revised pledge for the three year financial period beginning July 1973. This pledge makes available £2 to the CFTC for every £1 contributed by the developing countries within an annual ceiling of C\$3 million. The Canadian Government has also undertaken to consider sympathetically an upward revision of this ceiling when the annual rate of contributions from developing countries is due to exceed C\$1.5 million.

In the case of Britain, the pledge operates through an undertaking to meet thirty per cent of the Fund's total expenditure. For the first three financial years, i.e. 1971-72, 1972-73 and 1973-74, the pledge has been for £1 million with an annual ceiling of £400,000. The British Government has indicated that this pledge will be significantly increased to a total of £2.4 million for the next three year period, with ceilings of £700,000, £800,000 and £900,000 respectively.

The pledges for the remaining two developed country members of the Fund, namely Australia and New Zealand, have so far been made on an annual basis. The New Zealand Government's pledge is now to rise more than four-fold from its present (1973-74) level of NZ\$100,000, and the Australian Government has also indicated that similarly, its pledge will be significantly increased from £100,000 to A\$600,000.

The Nigerian Government is to become a major contributor to the Fund in 1974/75, through its decision to pledge 2 million Naira (approx. £1,378,000) over the next three years.

All member governments of the Fund contribute on a voluntary basis to its resources, in convertible or non-convertible currency, or a mixture of the two. The resources available have continued to more than double from year to year, and reached £1½ million during 1973. They are expected to approach £4 million in the new financial year beginning July 1974.

Extension of Terms of Reference

When the activities of the CFTC were reviewed at the meeting of Heads of Government in Ottawa in 1973, the Secretary-General outlined a number of areas which offered possibilities of fruitful co-operation through the Fund.

After due consideration, the Committee of the Whole, whose views were endorsed by the Heads of Government, referred certain of these proposals to the next meeting of the CFTC's Board of Representatives. These proposals concerned the extension of the CFTC's activities into the provision of operational personnel on a selective basis, the provision of equipment to support the role of experts while on field assignments, and support for development assistance of general concern to Commonwealth members. These proposals, which the Heads of Government Meeting regarded as meriting favourable consideration, were subsequently approved at the Sixth Meeting of the Board of Representatives held in Dar-es-Salaam in September 1973.

The Fund therefore can now provide operational experts in addition to the experts and consultants filling largely advisory positions. This meets the increasing demand shown by developing countries for "doers", as well as advisers, to carry out executive and technical functions. There had also been limitations in the eyes of governments, to the usefulness of advisers where follow-up action of an operational nature was required for the implementation of recommendations made. The provision of operational experts thus now complements the no less important facility under the CFTC of expertise which is basically orientated towards advisory responsibilities.

Personnel under the operational experts scheme are provided in accordance with certain guidelines. Preference is shown to the filling of new positions, except where managerial or organisational responsibilities are involved. Projects are expected of course to have a clearly developmental priority, and should contain a training element. Counterparts are requested where appropriate. Also of importance, is the financial condition for requests made under this scheme. The government making the request contributes to the Fund the equivalent of the local salary for the position being filled as an additional pledge to the CFTC, so enabling the Fund to use these resources to activate the matching formula pledge of Canada. The Fund meets all salaries, allowances, travel and other official items of expenditure relating to these assignments.

With equipment, the Fund can now spend up to £2,000 on small items of readily obtainable equipment in support of an expert undertaking a field assignment. Such expenditure in the past had not normally exceeded a few hundred pounds against any project. The new rule meets such needs as office and communications equipment for public administration experts, and audio-visual aids for educational advisers. Experience over the previous two years suggested that the effectiveness of many projects could be enhanced with this kind of equipment becoming available. In line with the practice followed by many bilateral and multilateral aid agencies, equipment purchased is left behind in the recipient country after the departure of the expert. This should prove particularly useful in the case of operational experts, where counterparts would be assuming the functions of the expert and might also be continuing with training programmes.

The Fund's activities arising under the broad category of developmental assistance of general concern to the Commonwealth were endorsed. These include projects of a carefully selected and well-defined nature undertaken in response to needs identified by Heads of Government or Ministers at Commonwealth meetings. The planned target for expenditure on such technical assistance activities is 4 per cent of programme expenditure. As this report will indicate under the programme sections, the Fund is continuing

to place considerable importance on regional and Commonwealth project activities, often working through Commonwealth organisations, or in conjunction with other international bodies.

Programmes

The balance of this report covers the activities of the Fund in 1973, which comprises the latter half of the financial year 1972-73, and the first half of the 1973-74 year. The Fund's total expenditure in the financial year ending 30 June 1973 was £615,000 of which £494,000 was for programme activities. Of this expenditure, £313,000 was on General Technical Assistance, £95,000 on Education and Training, £46,000 on Export Market Development and £39,000 for the Technical Assistance Group of experts. It is expected that expenditure for 1973-74 will be in the region of £1.375 million, of which £1.2 million, more than double the 1972-73 figure, will be accounted for by programme activities.

General Technical Assistance Programme

Of the Fund's three programmes, this remains the largest and most comprehensive in scope. The assistance given so far under this programme has covered most fields relating to economic and social development.

An essential aim of the Fund, and one which received favourable comment at the Heads of Government Meeting in 1973, is to meet requests for assistance with speed and flexibility. Just as the Fund responded quickly with large scale technical assistance to Bangladesh in 1972 following the cessation of hostilities there, a similar operation was launched in Zambia following the closure of that country's border with Rhodesia in early 1973, to complement, as in the case of Bangladesh, the assistance provided from other sources. This assistance from the Fund concentrated on meeting Zambia's urgent transport needs. A transport programme co-ordinator was assigned to assist in the overall transport programming and in organising large scale movement of freight by overland routes into and out of Zambia through ports in neighbouring countries. Assistance was also given to the Government in planning and operating the emergency airlift to bring in essential imports. This assistance was followed by the provision of Canadian teams on a longer term basis to advise on the logistics of airlift operations, and to assist in the establishment of a management nucleus for the National Transport Corporation. Advice has continued to be given on the general development of import and export routes for Zambia. A number of requests for other forms of technical assistance to Zambia have also been met.

Another instance of the CFTC responding with significant assistance to a special situation, followed a visit by the Commonwealth Secretary-General and the Managing Director of the Fund to Papua New Guinea during 1973. Note was taken of the special needs of Papua New Guinea as it approached independence, and the value of providing technical assistance on a multilateral basis from a wide range of Commonwealth countries, to supplement extensive assistance the territory has been continuing to receive from Australia. It was agreed that Papua New Guinea deserved priority attention from the Fund. The assistance urgently requested was mainly in the educational field, for the filling of key positions, but has extended to

many other fields. These have included advice on forestry manpower planning requirements, the involvement of young people in community service, the establishment of a school of animal husbandry, and constitutional requirements. The relatively small programme initially implemented is expected to develop into a much larger programme during the course of 1974.

Education is one of the fields in which the General Technical Assistance programme is becoming particularly active. Teams of experts from Britain, Canada and the Caribbean are to advise on the development of educational programmes in The Bahamas, and the co-ordination of teacher training programmes in Guyana. In Malta, experts have been provided to advise on teacher education, including in-service courses for teachers on remedial work for slow learners. An expert has also advised the Government of Sri Lanka on training teachers for mentally retarded children, and a team of experts from East Africa and the Caribbean is to give advice on the progress of a national education review for Sierra Leone.

Public administration is another field in which considerable assistance has been requested of the Fund, mainly in Africa. British experts have been assigned at the request of the East African Community to advise at the East African Staff College on curriculum development, and financial management and control. Other British experts have advised on fiscal and monetary policy in Botswana, and in St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla. Projects involving Sri Lankan experts include advice and assistance to Zambia's National Institute of Public Administration on management skills, to Tanzania's Institute of Finance Management on the organisation and setting up of a training course in accountancy, and to the Institute of Administration at the University of Ife in Nigeria on the curriculum development of management accounting. In Kenya, a number of experts from India and New Zealand have been appointed as advisers and trainers to assist with the implementation and administration of Kenya's new national income-tax legislation.

Other projects of an advisory or operational nature include a consultant for Botswana to advise on all matters relating to the production and sale of diamonds; the legal advice requested by Mauritius for a revision and consolidation of its legislation; the provision of a traffic engineer to assist in the planning and organisation of traffic management in Singapore; the appointment of a team of experts to advise on the preparation and implementation of a five year development plan for the Western Samoa Trust Estates Corporation; large-scale assistance being provided for the establishment of a management nucleus for the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation; an expert for the Government of The Bahamas on port administration and the technical aspects of harbour operations; and assistance to the East Caribbean Common Market on the organisation of an economic planning unit.

Feasibility studies have also continued to feature prominently under this programme in Africa, the Caribbean and the South Pacific. In Africa, for example, a team of Kenyan experts has been undertaking a survey on the tourism potential of Lesotho.

An important recent regional development is the decision to establish a Regional Health Bureau in Arusha for East, Central and Southern Africa. This resulted from a meeting of Ministers of Health of Commonwealth countries in the region. The role of this new body will parallel that of the West African Regional Health Bureau established in Lagos in 1972, by

promoting co-operation in the medical and public health fields between the Commonwealth countries of the region. As in the case of the West African body, the Secretary and the Administrative Assistant for the bureau are appointed under the Fund, while the work programme of the bureau will likewise receive Fund support. The new bureau will also of course receive financial support from the Commonwealth governments of the region.

The Technical Assistance Group (TAG)

Recent international developments with regard to the energy crisis have underlined the importance, and intensified the activities of, the CFTC's Technical Assistance Group (TAG) of experts. The group's particular fields of expertise hitherto available to governments, namely fiscal, legal and economic, have now been expanded to include the scientific and technological field.

The main area of activities of this small group has continued to be that of resource development. In Cyprus for example, the TAG's resources team is providing the Government with draft continental shelf and petroleum production legislation, draft petroleum exploration and exploitation licences, as well as economic and fiscal advice relating to the structure of the petroleum industry. Similar work has been undertaken by the team for the Government of Sierra Leone. Both countries have also received advice on general mineral exploitation. With the assistance of a consultant, an analysis of the fiscal aspects of mineral legislation and mineral concession agreements of all Commonwealth African countries is being undertaken which is expected to form a basis of recommendations to the Sierra Leone Government for changes in their legislation. For Cyprus, a consultant has also been retained to provide reports on oil pollution and its prevention, and the different techniques of oil exploration and exploitation that might be utilised. Other countries to be given advice from the Fund on questions relating to the law of the sea, and the development of oil resources, are The Bahamas, Bangladesh, the British Solomon Islands, Mauritius and the New Hebrides.

The British Solomon Islands have also been advised on the exploitation of geothermal-energy, while Papua New Guinea is to receive advice and assistance in the negotiating of its mining contracts. In addition to these activities, the Technical Assistance Group has continued to help in the provision of advice to governments on matters relating to the EEC.

The Fund has become involved in furthering the transfer of appropriate technology where this is likely to contribute to national development. In Tanzania, advice has been provided through the Technical Assistance Group and in the form of British experts, with regard to the expansion of small scale industries. Further activities in the field of scientific and technological development are expected to unfold during the course of 1974.

Export Market Development Programme

This programme concerns itself with the provision of technical assistance and market research studies aimed at increasing the range and volume of exports of the Commonwealth developing countries. The potential

of the programme is indicated by the scope of the projects now being initiated under its auspices. These projects encompass advice on increasing exports of existing commodities, the identification of new exports, the development of infrastructure to help in the export effort, and assistance in negotiations with the European Economic Community.

Since the outset of the programme, continued support has been given to governments seeking advice and assistance on matters relating to the EEC. The range of Commonwealth expertise sought for these assignments includes Canadian, Ghanaian and Grenadian advisers, who have been utilised by The Bahamas, the East African Community and the East Caribbean Common Market respectively.

Of considerable significance also has been the appointment of an Indian expert based in Geneva to advise and assist Commonwealth developing countries on multilateral trade negotiations. Through this appointment, governments lacking the necessary representation in Europe, have been kept informed of developments. This expert has also been able to give assistance to the governments of Fiji, Tonga and Western Samoa on aspects of their negotiations with the EEC.

Several large-scale market research studies have been undertaken. These include studies for Bangladesh (in tea, leather and fish), Cyprus (footwear and clothing) and Malaysia (timber products, pineapple and palm oil). Studies are also being initiated in a very wide range of products including non-traditional items for Kenya in the United Kingdom market, and for India in both that and several other markets.

Besides the financing of market studies, technical assistance is provided for such aspects of export market development as packaging and labelling, quality control, the development of standards, export documentation, participation in trade fairs, and the establishment of export credit and insurance schemes. Examples of such assistance are the advice being given to The Gambia for the establishment and organisation of a National Trading Corporation, and to Cyprus for the setting up of an export credit and insurance scheme.

Further to the first regional seminar on export promotion techniques which was held in the Caribbean in 1972, a seminar on export promotion and international marketing is to be held in Nairobi in 1974 for Commonwealth African countries. This seminar is expected to lead to the expansion of the activities of the Export Market Development programme in the region, as was the case in the Caribbean following the first regional seminar. Assistance under the programme is of course provided for regional activities, such as a forthcoming project for the Windward Islands aimed at improving the quality of bananas for export.

Activities on a Commonwealth-wide basis include the symposium being arranged in London in 1974 on international tea market expansion. This is being organised in conjunction with the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/GATT and with the co-operation of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). The symposium will bring together representatives of Commonwealth and other tea exporting countries, and of the trade in importing countries, with specialists in marketing and publicity, to discuss all aspects of tea promotion. The symposium will study methods of widening the frontier of tea promotion, aimed at raising levels of consumption, and securing equitable

and remunerative prices for increasing quantities of tea. Cost benefit studies being undertaken in certain markets at the same time will also help exporting countries determine the areas with the greatest potential for tea consumption.

Education and Training Programme

The Education and Training programme provides support for the training in Commonwealth developing countries of personnel from other Commonwealth developing countries, often for training which is not readily available under other aid programmes. The programme is used to promote new schemes of co-operation, and to expand existing programmes, both in formal education, and in the extensive area of non-institutional training. Its activities have covered a wide range of fields relating to development, and reflect the ability to respond, often at short notice, to the needs of the Commonwealth developing countries. Wherever possible, awards are made for study and training within the same region or sub-region, under conditions broadly similar to those to which the trainees are accustomed.

Of some importance in the future growth of the programme's activities is the first directory, of university and other post-secondary education and training institutions in the developing Commonwealth, which is due for publication early in 1974. This publication will enable government agencies, through whom requests for assistance under the programme are directed, to be more fully aware of the facilities available in universities, and more especially perhaps, in polytechnics, technical colleges, colleges of education and other specialised professional and training institutions, in other Commonwealth developing countries.

Many of the requests for assistance under the programme involve institutional training of a technical, professional or vocational nature. Wherever feasible, such courses are followed by a period of on-the-job training. During the course of the year, support has been given for the training of meteorological technicians from Guyana at the Caribbean Meteorological Institute in Barbados, a certificate course at the Cyprus Forestry College for a trainee from Dominica, the attendance at an air traffic control course in Nigeria of two trainees from Lesotho, a diploma course in wild life management in Tanzania for a Malawi trainee, and a nautical training course in the British Solomon Islands for mates and engineers from Papua New Guinea. Other fields in which awards have been made include animal management, community development, co-operatives, fisheries, local government administration, public administration, radiology, statistics and telecommunications.

Although awards for university degrees of a general nature are usually given less priority, support for attendance at university courses which cannot be obtained locally, and where a definite vocational element is involved, form an important section of the programme's activities. Like all other awards granted, these relate to the developmental requirements of governments. An example of this is the training in Papua New Guinea, for a degree in law, of the first lawyer for the New Hebrides. Other examples of support given, are for bachelor degree courses in veterinary science at the University of Ibadan in Nigeria, and in mining at the University of Zambia, for personnel from Botswana. Degree courses have also been supported in subjects like agricultural and mechanical engineering, environmental engineering, geology, pharmacology and science.

Considerable emphasis is placed on non-institutional forms of training, especially where these are designed to provide essential manpower skills and to assist in reducing unemployment. These include study visits, and periods of attachment to the public or private sector. In-service courses have been arranged, for example, at the University Hospital in Jamaica for a trainee in operating theatre techniques from St. Lucia, and in Ghana, for officials from The Gambia Commercial and Development Bank. An official from Western Samoa is to receive training in modern techniques at the office of the Auditor-General in Malaysia, and an official from India is to be sent to South East Asia and the South Pacific to observe multi-lingual publishing operations.

Regional activities have included support for attendance at training courses, such as the in-service training course for customs officers in the Caribbean, and the courses in planning and control in farm management at the Managa Agricultural Management Centre in Swaziland, to which various Commonwealth countries in the Caribbean and African regions have sent personnel. Support has also been given for developmentally orientated seminars and workshop where a substantial training element is involved, such as the seminar for teachers of the deaf held in the Caribbean region, and the seminars being arranged for Commonwealth Africa in Kenya and Tanzania by the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association.

The range of assistance provided for regional activities under this programme is further illustrated in the Pacific, where the Fund has supported the attendance of personnel at a seminar on the co-ordination of off-shore prospecting, a training seminar in hospital administration, a regional working party on telecommunications arranged by the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation, a symposium for inspectors of schools for the South Pacific and South East Asia, an in-service training course held in Tonga for the teaching of English as a foreign language, and a seminar on the future development of the University of the South Pacific.

Initiatives for CFTC project assistance have increasingly emanated from Commonwealth meetings, often of a ministerial nature. One such initiative has resulted from the Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting held in London in 1973, which focused on the shortage of legal draftsmen in Commonwealth developing countries. Regional studies undertaken on a Commonwealth-wide basis with CFTC support have since identified the full nature and scope of the problem, following which the training requirements and facilities in the respective regions have been assessed. Regional courses for the training of legal draftsmen in the Caribbean, Asia, West Africa, and East, Central and Southern Africa, are now being arranged with assistance from the Fund.

Another form of regional activity sponsored under the Education and Training programme is a scheme which will enable tutors at twenty-four teacher training colleges in the Commonwealth Caribbean to attend three-month attachments at the University of the West Indies. These courses are aimed at improving the standards of teacher training in the region.

In order to review the activities of the Education and Training programme on a regional basis, and to consider the future orientation and the expansion of the programme, a series of regional seminars is to be arranged. The first of these will be for Commonwealth Africa, and is to be held in Nairobi in early 1974. These meetings should provide a basis

for sound development of the Education and Training programme along the lines best suited to the national and regional requirements of the governments of the Commonwealth developing countries.

Special Commonwealth Programme for Rhodesians

The Commonwealth Secretariat has continued to act as a clearing-house for the Special Commonwealth Programme for Rhodesians, under which more than 900 Rhodesians have been offered study places, scholarships and employment opportunities in more than twenty-five Commonwealth countries. This Commonwealth initiative has contributed significantly to the development of a stock of high-level and middle-level manpower for the development, in due course, of an independent Zimbabwe with a government representative of all its peoples.

The Secretariat, through the CFTC's Education and Training programme, also administers the Commonwealth Rhodesia Scholarship Programme, which was established as a part of the Special Commonwealth Programme in 1972 following a Canadian pledge to provide up to C\$75,000 annually for Rhodesians, resident outside Rhodesia, who had offers of study places in Commonwealth developing countries. In September 1973, Australia undertook to provide up to A\$45,000 for the Programme, to enable Rhodesians to pursue courses in Commonwealth developing countries and in Australia. The Australian and Canadian contributions have already made it possible for 67 Rhodesians to pursue courses of study and training. The New Zealand Government has now indicated that it will be contributing to the Programme.

The CFTC also has responsibility for the general co-ordination of the Special Commonwealth Programme. The Fund's administrative duties in this regard involve close liaison with Commonwealth governments, with the Organisation of African Unity, with a number of United Nations agencies, and with voluntary bodies active in the field of assistance to Rhodesian students.