

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the operation in all participating countries of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan during the period 1 April 1974 to 31 March 1975.

The Report has been prepared by the Association of Commonwealth Universities for publication by the Commonwealth Secretariat. It has been compiled, like earlier Reports, from information provided by the Commonwealth Scholarship agencies, and consists of statements commenting on the working of the Plan in their respective countries and of Appendices giving details and statistics relating to certain aspects of the Plan. Following this introduction there is a general section entitled 'Administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan' which discusses the overall working of the Plan.

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan was drawn up at the first Commonwealth Education Conference held at Oxford in 1959. The general basis of the Plan is that those Commonwealth Governments which are able to do so should institute Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships to be held by men and women from other Commonwealth countries at universities and other institutions of higher learning in the awarding country. The scheme's progress has been reviewed at successive Commonwealth Education Conferences at New Delhi in 1962, Ottawa in 1964, Lagos in 1968, Canberra in 1971, and Jamaica in 1974.

Definitions set out in the first Annual Report and confirmed by the New Delhi, Ottawa and Lagos Conferences for use in reports and statistics are given below. Two definitions were added in the third Annual Report to the original list and a few verbal changes have also been made:

institution of awards: when a country has by a government decision made financial provisions etc. for Scholarships or Fellowships under the Plan for study by citizens of other Commonwealth countries in its own country it is said to have instituted awards;

awarding country: a country which has instituted awards is known as an awarding country;

submission of nominations: when a country has forwarded a short list of recommended candidates from its own country for final consideration in an awarding country it is said to have nominated them;

nominating country: any country invited to submit nominations;

award offered: is an award which has actually been offered by the awarding country to a specific candidate nominated by another country. This phrase does not apply to the invitation to another country by an awarding country to submit nominations;

award accepted: is an award which has been accepted by the candidate to whom it was offered, whether yet taken up or not;

award taken up: is an award which has been utilized to the extent that the Scholar has actually commenced study under the Plan in the awarding country;

awards made available: when an awarding country has instituted a fixed number of awards it makes a proportion of them available each year for new selections;

set of awards: when an awarding country makes available a group of awards tenable from a date common to the group as a whole the awards are known as a set of awards and may be referred to by the name of the awarding country and the calendar year in which they are tenable. Thus awards tenable in Nigeria from September 1975 are referred to as Nigeria 1975, and awards tenable in Australia from March 1976 are referred to as Australia 1976.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP PLAN

The compilers of the Fifteenth Annual Report of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan wish to acknowledge the generally prompt completion and return of the questionnaire eliciting information for this document. Compilation of the report was, however, somewhat hampered by the failure of certain awarding countries to respond, thereby rendering completion of the statistical tables impossible.

A feature of this year's report is that the emoluments of Commonwealth Scholarships are given in full for the first time since the tenth Report (see Appendix II). This was felt to be desirable since there have been so many changes recently in the level of allowances due to worldwide inflation.

It is also worth noting that the Report on the Sixth Commonwealth Education Conference in Jamaica records the gratitude of delegates for the appearance of the Fourteenth Annual Report in time for the Conference. This gave them a valuable source of information which aided their discussion.