

## Foreword by the Commonwealth Secretary-General

At Kingston in May 1975 Commonwealth Heads of Government invited a small group of experts from member countries to propose practical measures, in the context of the current international dialogue, directed at closing the gap between rich and poor countries. The Interim Report of the group of ten experts, with Mr. Alistair McIntyre as Chairman, was given general endorsement by Commonwealth Finance Ministers in Georgetown in August 1975. Ministers then requested me to make the Interim Report available to the international community, particularly in the context of the Seventh Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

The Group of Experts, at their meeting in London from 19 February to 2 March 1976, completed a further Report concentrating on certain specific issues which the Group considered specially relevant to the forthcoming discussions at UNCTAD IV in Nairobi in May 1976. Despite the fact that there has not been an opportunity for this further Report to be considered collectively by Commonwealth Governments, it is felt that its publication at this stage, without any commitment by Commonwealth Governments to its recommendations, may be a useful contribution to the on-going international dialogue.

It should be emphasised that the Report was prepared and signed by the members of the Experts' Group in their personal capacities, and not as representatives of Governments or countries. Its release at this stage does not imply that the Report necessarily represents the views of Commonwealth Governments nor does its publication commit them individually or collectively to its recommendations. The intention of publication is to contribute to the current dialogue in the international community by making available the considered views of an independent group of experts.

  
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