

Preface

Many developing countries are striving to provide quality Science, Technology and Mathematics Education (STME) as part of basic education in a context of limited resources. The Commonwealth Secretariat's work in STME is in four main areas: training of trainers; scientific and technological literacy for all; measures to enhance the participation of girls and women in science and technology and training of laboratory technicians.

Efforts to improve STME through better quality pre-service and in-service teacher education have often neglected the needs of those who are providing training at universities and colleges of education. In order to address this issue the Commonwealth Secretariat organised in the UK a planning meeting of Science Technology and Mathematics educators from Commonwealth countries. The participants at this meeting recommended the development of monographs to assist teacher educators in the delivery of Science Technology and Mathematics teacher education programme.

The basic framework of the monographs was also developed in this meeting.

The African edition of the monographs formed the basis for the development of the Asian edition. The African edition of the monographs were reviewed in an Asian regional workshop held at the National Council of Educational Research & Training, New Delhi, India.

On behalf of the Commonwealth Secretariat, I wish to express gratitude to all the participants who have contributed to the development of these monographs. I also wish to express my sincere gratitude to the Swedish International Development Agency for sponsoring the participant from Sri Lanka, to the Government of Malaysia for meeting the travel expenses of its participant, to the National Council of Educational Research & Training, New Delhi and National Council of Teacher Education, New Delhi for co-sponsoring the workshop. Last but not the least I wish to thank my colleagues Dr. Ved Goel for conducting the review and adaptation workshop and editing the monographs, Ms. Sonia Alexis for designing the monographs and Mr Greg Covington for preparing the illustrations.

We are fully cognizant of the fact that these monographs have not been tested in the field prior to printing. I therefore sincerely request the science and technology educators in Asia to try out these monographs and send us their evaluations and suggestions for further improvement.

Prof. Stephen A Matlin
Director
Human Resource Development Division