

The Harare Commonwealth Declaration

1. The Heads of Government of the countries of the Commonwealth, meeting in Harare, reaffirm their confidence in the Commonwealth as a voluntary association of sovereign independent states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the interests of their peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace.

2. Members of the Commonwealth include people of many different races and origins, encompass every state of economic development, and comprise a rich variety of cultures, traditions and institutions.

3. The special strength of the Commonwealth lies in the combination of the diversity of its members with their shared inheritance in language, culture and the rule of law. The Commonwealth way is to seek consensus through consultation and the sharing of experience. It is uniquely placed to serve as a model and as a catalyst for new forms of friendship and co-operation to all in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations.

4. Its members also share a commitment to certain fundamental principles. These were set out in a Declaration of Commonwealth Principles agreed by our predecessors at their Meeting in Singapore in 1971. Those principles have stood the test of time, and we reaffirm our full and continuing commitment to them today. In particular, no less today than 20 years ago:

- we believe that international peace and order, global economic development and the rule of international law are essential to the security and prosperity of mankind;
- we believe in the liberty of the individual under the law, in equal rights for all citizens regardless of gender, race, colour, creed or political belief, and in the individual's inalienable right to participate by means of free and democratic political processes in framing the society in which he or she lives;
- we recognize racial prejudice and intolerance as a dangerous sickness and a threat to healthy development, and racial discrimination as an unmitigated evil;
- we oppose all forms of racial oppression, and we are committed to the principles of human dignity and equality;
- we recognize the importance and urgency of economic and social development to satisfy the basic needs and aspirations of the vast majority of the peoples of the world, and seek the progressive removal of the wide disparities in living standards amongst our members.

5. In Harare, our purpose has been to apply those principles in the contemporary situation as the Commonwealth prepares to face the challenges of the 1990s and beyond.

6. Internationally, the world is no longer locked in the iron grip of the Cold War. Totalitarianism is giving way to democracy and justice in many parts of the world. Decolonization is largely complete. Significant changes are at last under way in South Africa. These changes, so desirable and heartening in themselves, present the world and the Commonwealth with new tasks and challenges.

7. In the last twenty years, several Commonwealth countries have made significant progress in economic and social development. There is increasing recognition that commitment to market principles and openness to international trade and investment can promote economic progress and improve living standards. Many Commonwealth countries are poor and face acute problems, including excessive population growth, crushing poverty, debt burdens and environmental degradation. More than half our member states are particularly vulnerable because of their very small societies.

8. Only sound and sustainable development can offer these millions the prospect of betterment. Achieving this will require a flow of public and private resources from the developed to the developing world, and domestic and international regimes conducive to the realization of these goals. Development facilitates the task of tackling a range of problems which affect the whole global community such as environmental degradation, the problems of migration and refugees, the fight against communicable diseases, and drug production and trafficking.

9. Having reaffirmed the principles to which the Commonwealth is committed, and reviewed the problems and challenges which the world, and the Commonwealth as part of it, face, we pledge the Commonwealth and our countries to work with renewed vigour, concentrating especially in the following areas:

- the protection and promotion of the fundamental political values of the Commonwealth:
- democracy, democratic processes and institutions which reflect national circumstances, the rule of law and the independence of the judiciary, just and honest government;
- fundamental human rights, including equal rights and opportunities for all citizens regardless of race, colour, creed or political belief;
- equality for women, so that they may exercise their full and equal rights;
- provision of universal access to education for the population of our countries;
- continuing action to bring about the end of apartheid and the establishment of a free,

democratic, non-racial and prosperous South Africa;

- the promotion of sustainable development and the alleviation of poverty in the countries of the Commonwealth through:
- a stable international economic framework within which growth can be achieved;
- sound economic management recognizing the central role of the market economy;
- effective population policies and programmes;
- sound management of technological change;
- the freest possible flow of multilateral trade on terms fair and equitable to all, taking account of the special requirements of developing countries;
- an adequate flow of resources from the developed to developing countries, and action to alleviate the debt burdens of developing countries most in need;
- the development of human resources, in particular through education, training health, culture, sport and programmes for strengthening family and community support, paying special attention to the needs of women, youth and children;
- effective and increasing programmes of bilateral and multilateral co-operation aimed at raising living standards;
- extending the benefits of development within a framework of respect for human rights;
- the protection of the environment through respect for the principles of sustainable development which we enunciated at Langkawi;
- action to combat drug trafficking and abuse and communicable diseases;
- help for small Commonwealth states in tackling their particular economic and security problems;
- support of the United Nations and other international institutions in the world's search for peace, disarmament and effective arms control; and in the promotion of international consensus on major global political, economic and social issues.

10. To give weight and effectiveness to our commitments we intend to focus and improve Commonwealth co-operation in these areas. This would include strengthening the capacity of the Commonwealth to respond to requests from members for assistance in entrenching the practices of democracy, accountable administration and the rule of law.

11. We call on all the intergovernmental institutions of the Commonwealth to seize the opportunities presented by these challenges. We pledge ourselves to assist them to

develop programmes which harness our shared historical, professional, cultural and linguistic heritage and which complement the work of other international and regional organizations.

12 We invite the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and non-governmental Commonwealth organizations to play their full part in promoting these objectives, in a spirit of co-operation and mutual support.

13. In reaffirming the principles of the Commonwealth and in committing ourselves to pursue them in policy and action in response to the challenges of the 1990s, in areas where we believe that the Commonwealth has a distinctive contribution to offer, we the Heads of Government express our determination to renew and enhance the value and importance of the Commonwealth as an institution which can and should strengthen and enrich the lives not only of its own members and their peoples but also of the wider community of peoples of which they are a part.

Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, Harare, 1991

The Fancourt Commonwealth Declaration on Globalisation and People-Centred Development

In today's world, no country is untouched by the forces of globalisation. Our destinies are linked together as never before. The challenge is to seize the opportunities opened up by globalisation while minimising its risks.

On the positive side, globalisation is creating unprecedented opportunities for wealth creation and for the betterment of the human condition. Reduced barriers to trade and enhanced capital flows are fuelling economic growth.

The revolution in communications technologies is shrinking the distance between nations, providing new opportunities for the transfer of knowledge and the development of skills-based industries. And technological advance globally offers great potential for the eradication of poverty.

But the benefits of globalisation are not shared equitably. Prosperity remains the preserve of the few. Despite the progress of the past fifty years, half the world's population lives on less than two US dollars per day. Many millions live in conditions of extreme deprivation. The poor are being marginalised. Expanded capital flows have also brought with them the risk of greater financial instability, undermining the hope that a commitment to open markets can lift the developing world, especially the least developed countries, out of poverty and debt.

The persistence of poverty and human deprivation diminishes us all. It also makes global peace and security fragile, limits the growth of markets, and forces millions to migrate in search of a better life. It constitutes a deep and fundamental structural flaw in the world economy.

The greatest challenge therefore facing us today is how to channel the forces of globalisation for the elimination of poverty and the empowerment of human beings to lead fulfilling lives.

The solution does not lie in abandoning a commitment to market principles or in wishing away the powerful forces of technological change. Globalisation is a reality and can only increase in its impact. But if the benefits of globalisation are to be shared more widely, there must be greater equity for countries in global markets.

We call on all nations fully to implement the Uruguay Round commitments to dismantle barriers to trade for the mutual benefit of all. Moreover, recognising in particular the significant contribution that enhanced export opportunities can make for reducing poverty, we call for improved market access for the exports of all countries, particularly developing countries, and the removal of all barriers to the exports of the least developed countries.

Strong export growth remains a key element in the ability of developing countries to

improve their living standards to the levels enjoyed in the industrialised world. We support efforts that would enable developing countries to build up their skills and manufacturing capacities, including the production and export of value-added goods, so as to enhance growth and achieve prosperity.

Likewise, we urge that the forthcoming Ministerial Meeting of WTO to launch the next round of global negotiations on trade be one with a pronounced developmental dimension, with the aim of achieving better market access in agriculture, industrial products and services in a way that provides benefits to all members, particularly developing countries. The Round should be balanced in process, content and outcome.

We fully believe in the importance of upholding labour standards and protecting the environment. But these must be addressed in an appropriate way that does not, by linking them to trade liberalisation, end up effectively impeding free trade and causing injustice to developing countries.

We also call on the global community to establish innovative mechanisms to promote capital flows to a wider number of countries; and to urgently initiate reform of international financial architecture to minimise financial instability and its impact on the poor.

We believe that the elimination of poverty is achievable – but only if we take determined and concerted action at national and international levels. We reiterate our commitment to work for a reversal of the decline in official development assistance flows. Urgent action is also required to tackle the unsustainable debt burden of developing countries, particularly the poorest, building on the recent initiatives agreed internationally. We believe such development assistance must be focused on human development, poverty reduction and on the development of capacities for participating in expanding world markets for goods and capital. Above all, we recognise the responsibilities of national governments to promote pro-poor policies and human development.

If the poor and the vulnerable are to be at the centre of development, the process must be participatory, in which they have a voice. We believe that the spread of democratic freedoms and good governance, and access to education, training and health care are key to the expansion of human capabilities, and to the banishment of ignorance and prejudice. Recognising that good governance and economic progress are directly linked, we affirm our commitment to the pursuit of greater transparency, accountability, the rule of law and the elimination of corruption in all spheres of public life and in the private sector.

We are concerned at the vast gap between rich and poor in the ability to access the new technologies, at the concentration of the world's research resources in market-driven products and processes, the increasing tendency to claim proprietary rights on traditional knowledge, and at bio-piracy. We call on the world community to use the opportunities offered by globalisation for adopting practical measures for overcoming these challenges; for example, by extending the benefits of global medical research through

the provision of drugs at affordable prices to the poor in developing countries.

We welcome the spread of ideas, information and knowledge in building civil support for social equality, and in opposing all forms of discrimination and other injustices based on ethnicity, gender, race and religion. But, while better communications have increased human contact, there is for some a growing sense of social exclusion and a general failure of moral purpose. Persistence of inequalities faced by women, continued high levels of youth unemployment, lack of adequate support systems for the aged, children and the disabled in many parts of the world and increased threats to the diversity of cultures and beliefs all contribute to the undermining of just and stable society. We therefore call for a renewed commitment to eliminate all forms of discrimination and to take measures that promote respect for the diverse languages, cultures and beliefs, and traditions of the world, which enrich all our lives.

Recognising that the full exploitation of the opportunities for development created by globalisation is not possible without security, political stability and peace, we commit ourselves, in partnership with civil society, to promote processes that help to prevent or resolve conflicts in a peaceful manner, support measures that help to stabilise post-conflict situations, and combat terrorism of all kinds.

Good governance requires inclusive and participatory processes at both national and international levels. We call on the global community to search for inclusive processes of multilateralism which give a more effective voice in the operations of international institutions to developing countries, and which recognise the particular vulnerabilities of small states.

We believe that the Commonwealth, an association of diverse sovereign nations reflecting different stages of development and united by common values, has a vital role to play in promoting consensus at national and international levels and in providing practical assistance for the creation of capacities needed to promote people-centred development. At the threshold of a new millennium, we look to the Commonwealth, and its family of organisations, to contribute significantly to making the above aspirations a reality.

Fancourt, George, South Africa
14 November 1999

The Millennium Development Goals

1. Eradicate Extreme Poverty and Hunger:

Target 1a: Halve the proportion of people living on less than a dollar a day.

Target 1b: Halve the proportion of people suffering from hunger.

2. Achieve Universal Primary Education:

Target 2: Ensure that children everywhere – boys and girls alike – complete a full course of primary education.

3. Promote Gender Equality and Empower Women:

Target 3: Eliminate gender disparities in primary and secondary education, preferably by 2005, and in all levels of education by 2015.

4. Reduce Child Mortality:

Target 4: Reduce infant and under-five mortality rates by two-thirds.

5. Improve Maternal Health:

Target 5: Reduce maternal mortality ratios by three-quarters.

6. Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Other Diseases:

Target 6a: Halt and begin to reverse the spread of HIV/AIDS

Target 6b: Halt and begin to reverse the incidence of malaria and other major diseases

7. Ensure Environmental Sustainability:

Target 7a: Integrate the principles sustainable development into country policies and programmes and reverse the loss of environmental resources.

Target 7b: Halve the proportion of people without sustainable safe drinking water.

Target 7c: Achieve, by 2020, a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum dwellers.

8. Develop a Global Partnership for Development.

Source: UNDP, *Human Development Report 2002: Deepening Democracy in a Fragmented World*, Oxford University Press, 2002

Annex D

What is the Washington Consensus?

The Washington Consensus of market-friendly reforms refers to the following ten policy objectives:

- Fiscal discipline;
- Redirection of public expenditure toward education, health and infrastructure investment;
- Tax reform – broadening the tax base and cutting marginal tax rates;
- Interest rates that are market-determined and positive (but moderate) in real terms;
- Competitive exchange rates;
- Trade liberalisation – replacement of quantitative restrictions with low and uniform tariffs;
- Openness to foreign direct investment;
- Privatisation of state enterprises;
- Deregulation – abolishment of regulations that impede entry or restrict competition, except for those justified on safety, environmental, and consumer protection grounds, and prudential oversight of financial institutions;
- Legal security for property rights.

Source: World Bank, *World Development Report 2000/2001: Attacking Poverty*, World Bank and Oxford University Press, 2001, p. 63

Notes

- 1 For a description of the Human Development Index, Human Poverty Index and various other indices and indicators published by the UNDP, see *Human Development Report 2002*, pp. 34–7.
- 2 Table A1.1, *Human Development Report 2002*.
- 3 *SIPRI Yearbook*, 2002.
- 4 Sebastian Mallaby, 2002.
- 5 *SIPRI Yearbook*, 2001.
- 6 *The Economist*, London, 15 June 2002.
- 7 Erin Mooney, of the Brookings Institution, CUNY Project on Internal Displacement, New York, in a letter to *The Economist*, London, 22 June 2002.
- 8 *Financial Times*, 8 May 2002.
- 9 World Bank, 2002a.
- 10 'The Prosperity League', *The Economist*, London, 22 June 2002.
- 11 Centre for Economic Policy Research, 2002, p. 62.
- 12 R.H. Cassen, 2002.
- 13 World Bank, 2002a.
- 14 R.H. Wade, 2001.
- 15 *Ibid.*
- 16 World Bank, 2002c, p. 72.
- 17 World Bank, 2002b, pp. 146–8.
- 18 *The Economist*, London, 13 July 2002.
- 19 *The Times of India*, Hyderabad, ed., 14 July 2002.
- 20 Przeworski *et al.*, 2000.
- 21 A. Varshney, 2002.
- 22 E. Wayne Nafziger and J. Auvinen, 2002.
- 23 W. Shawcross, 2000.
- 24 *Ibid.*
- 25 Amartya Sen, 1999 and Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, 2002.
- 26 Jean Dreze and Amartya Sen, 2002, pp. 347–79.
- 27 *Ibid.*
- 28 UNDP, 2002, Chapter 3.
- 29 *The Economist*, 30 March 2002.
- 30 The Commonwealth Secretariat, 1999.
- 31 E. Wayne Nafziger and J. Auvinen, 2002.
- 32 Deepali Pant Joshi, reviewing *Voices of the Poor: Crying Out for Change* by Deepa Narayan, Robert Chambers, Meera K. Shah and Patti Petesch, OUP 2000, in *Economic and Political Weekly*, 15 June 2002.
- 33 Letter to the *Financial Times*, 19 July 2002.
- 34 UNDP, *Human Development Report 2002*, p. 101.
- 35 Joseph Stiglitz, 2002, p. 61.
- 36 World Bank, 2003, p. 72.
- 37 Deepak Nayyar and Julius Court, 2002.
- 38 James Wolfensohn, 2002.
- 39 Percy S. Mistry, 2001.
- 40 Joseph Stiglitz, 2002; Bimal Jalan, 2002; and Guillermo Ortiz, 2002.
- 41 *The Economist*, London, 17 August 2002, pp. 20–2.
- 42 Dreze and Sen, 2002.
- 43 *The Economist*, London, 17 August 2002, pp. 13–14 and 20–2.
- 44 Dreze and Sen, 2002, p. 203.
- 45 *Ibid.*, Chapter 5.
- 46 Edward Luce, *Financial Times*, 19 August 2002.
- 47 Commonwealth Secretariat, 2002.
- 48 Percy S. Mistry, 2001.
- 49 See 'IMF lends too much, too long says monitor', *Financial Times*, 26 September 2002.
- 50 *Financial Times*, 2 September 2002.

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