

SUMMARY OF THE WORKING OF THE PLAN
IN THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

The Department of Education states:

The Department of Education has continued to administer awards made available by Australia to the developed countries of the Commonwealth (United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand). In addition, the Department is the Australian nominating authority for awards offered by all Commonwealth countries.

There have been no changes in the machinery for the administration of the Plan in Australia during the reporting period.

The number of awards on offer has remained the same. Living allowances and other benefits were increased with effect from December 1981.

The trend which we have noted in the past for postgraduate scholars to require significant extensions to their awards has continued. Students undertaking PhD programmes average well over three years, and in many cases require four years to complete their research programmes, the maximum period of award tenure. As a result of this trend there has been a steady increase in the number of students on award at any one time.

In the case of awards to these older Commonwealth countries, we believe that preference should be given to students seeking postgraduate (Doctorate or Master's) qualifications or, in special circumstances, certain postgraduate diploma courses.

The Australian Development Assistance Bureau states:

During the reporting period the Australian Development Assistance Bureau of the Department of Foreign Affairs continued to be responsible for scholars nominated for study in Australia by developing Commonwealth countries. No significant changes have been made to the administration of CSFP in Australia in respect of such awardees in that time.

Financial allocations made by Australia for CSFP awardees from developing Commonwealth countries have continued to be made on a regional rather than an individual country basis. This assists countries within a region to utilise more CSFP awards than they would normally be allocated on an individual basis in circumstances where other eligible countries in the region fail to nominate for awards.

BAHAMAS

The Bahamas has been allocated approximately twenty-five (25) Commonwealth Scholarships between 1962 and the present. Most of the awards were tenable at institutions in Canada followed closely by the United Kingdom. Other awarding countries have been New Zealand and Australia. Over the years, applications have been invited by other Commonwealth Countries such as Malta, Jamaica, Trinidad/Tobago, Cyprus, Malaysia, Sri Lanka (Ceylon), Hong Kong, Ghana and India.

Literature regarding the Commonwealth Scholarships is forwarded by the awarding country to the Ministry of External Affairs of the Bahamas Government and then to the Ministry of Education and Culture which is the nominating agency. Applications are invited from the Community through the media in the form of press releases which appear in the major, if not every, news publications and our deadline for submission of said applications is normally six (6) weeks before the deadline of the awarding country. We receive the most responses from students and/or public servants already holding a first degree from an accredited Caribbean, Canadian or American institution and who are generally between the ages of 25 - 30 years. The most popular choices of countries in which to study are Canada, the United Kingdom and Trinidad and Tobago or Jamaica.

Applications are processed by administrators in the Scholarships Section of the Ministry of Education and Culture and recommendations for awards made by a select committee. The criteria for selection follow:

- (a) Bahamian citizenship
- (b) Age 22 - 35 years
- (c) A first degree if proposed course of study will lead to a second degree
- (d) Applicants wishing to pursue a first degree will be considered only if the particular course cannot be attained at or near home
- (e) Relevance of proposed areas of study to the needs of the Country.

Persons recommended for awards are then requested to complete the requirements of the awarding country's application forms and the forms are forwarded to the country in question through the Department of Public Personnel.

Successful nominees of the public service are considered for in-service training awards limited to salary only to assist them further in the assumption of their Commonwealth Scholarships. The main objective of granting the in-service award is to ensure that the awardee will contribute significantly to the Bahamas on his/her successful return.

Although the College of the Bahamas, our highest medium of education to date, is affiliated with two (2) American Universities and the University of the West Indies, it is still a Junior College and therefore we are, at present, a nominating country rather than an awarding country under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship scheme.

BANGLADESH

Every year, on receipt of offers of scholarship from Commonwealth countries, an exercise is undertaken in the Ministry of Education to determine the fields and priorities for the utilisation of these offers. Representatives of UGC and relevant Directorates under the Ministry are involved in the exercise. This is done keeping in view the requirements of trained personnel for our universities and other educational institutions. Once this is done, applications are invited from candidates through newspapers.

Applications, when received, are initially scrutinized and only those candidates having excellent academic records are interviewed by a Selection Board appointed by the Government which includes subject-specialists from universities and men of eminence in the relevant fields. The recommendations made by this Committee are examined by a high level Selection Committee usually presided over by the Minister-in-charge of the Ministry of Education, and a panel of candidates is drawn up for final nomination.

There has been no change in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Bangladesh during the period under report. It has not yet been possible to institute any scheme for the award of scholarships to the nationals of other Commonwealth countries to study in Bangladesh. As a nominating country Bangladesh has not faced any major problem in the operation of the Plan. Barring a few, the scholars return to the country after completion of their studies and join their universities/institutions. No official report on the operation of the Plan has so far been published in Bangladesh though the procedures adopted by the Ministry are known to the concerned agencies/institutions. We feel that the award should cover the minimum period required for a Master's course with sufficient scope for doctoral/research studies.

BARBADOS

Barbados urges that:

- (i) awards be offered in areas of national needs.
- (ii) in certain scarce areas, the Commonwealth Scholarships be extended to undergraduate study e.g. dentistry and veterinary medicine.
- (iii) while awards will be mainly for postgraduate level studies, awarding countries should continue to make awards at undergraduate level where these are asked for by nominating countries and where suitable arrangements can be made.
- (iv) nominating countries should express clearly their national priorities and development needs when submitting application for awards.

BOTSWANA

The machinery for administering the Plan has not changed. Botswana has not yet instituted awards for the CSFP.

Academic staff awards for our local university is one area where impact of the Plan has been pronounced.

It would be a breakthrough for countries like Botswana if the Plan is extended to undergraduate studies in courses like Veterinary Medicine, Electrical Engineering and Medicine. This is because facilities for such training are not available locally. We would appreciate it very much if more countries would extend offers to Botswana.

All nominations submitted by the Ministry of Education fall within our national priority areas. In 1981 there was a sad development when one of our U.K. nominees had his award deferred for one year because the Commission believed it had the support of Government. The Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Education, shall remain the authority to communicate with the Scholarship Commission about deferment or withdrawal of Botswana nominees.

BRITAIN

The agency for the Plan continues to be the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom, under the chairmanship of Sir Michael Walker GCMG. The Commission's secretariat is provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities, the Joint Secretaries of the Commission being the Secretary-General (Dr Anastasios Christodoulou CBE) and the Assistant Secretary-General (Mr E E Temple OBE) of the Association.

The beginning of the report year saw the Commission's secretariat in the process of placing those candidates successful in the 1981 competition in institutions considered appropriate for their study or research. Over 100 more candidates were provisionally selected for the "general" scholarship awards than in the 1980 competition, a direct result of the British Government's having restored the funding of the Commission to previous levels. The increase in the number of those selected was not achieved at the expense of quality, and the British universities approached were generally very willing to offer places. Indeed, despite the increase in numbers to be placed, there was a marked reduction in the number of applicants on whose behalf the Commission had to make second or third requests, the great majority being accepted by the university of first choice. The number of general scholars successfully placed and finally accepting awards was again up about 100 on the previous year.

The 1982 competition has attracted a slight increase over that of 1981 in the total number of nominations received from overseas countries for the "general" Commonwealth Scholarships tenable in Britain. The Commission is grateful to nominating agencies for their efforts to ensure that the candidates put forward are of the good potential that has earned the scheme its deservedly high reputation; for that reputation would rapidly wane if receiving universities found Scholars to be inadequate. Yet, it is disappointing that some countries have not been able to nominate this year and that others have not submitted their full quota of nominations. The placing process for those already selected in 1982 is well under way, and once again the Commission is finding that, with the help of its academic advisers in guiding applicants towards the most appropriate institutions for their proposed studies, universities are very willing to take the newly selected Commonwealth Scholars.

Universities in the developing countries of the Commonwealth have maintained their interest in the Academic Staff Fellowships and Scholarships, and reports on such award-holders by U.K. university departments have been generally very favourable. The number of holders of Academic Staff Scholarships (which have parallel conditions to those of Commonwealth Scholarships) has reached a record total of 108 during the year.

The general standard of applicants for the Commission's Commonwealth Medical Fellowships, which are available to teachers in medical and dental colleges, has continued to rise. However, some agencies still submit Fellowship nominations in respect of candidates who plan to take formal courses or wish to prepare for degrees or diplomas; such candidates should

of course be nominated for Commonwealth Scholarships, which are open to applicants in all disciplines including medicine.

Reports on award holders of all kinds have continued to underline their above average quality and performance, thus helping to illustrate both why Commonwealth Scholars in general are so readily accepted into U.K. universities and why, on return home, they are usually found to make a very considerable contribution to life in their own countries.

The Commission has continued its programme of regional conferences to enable Scholars and Fellows and their teachers in various parts of the country to meet each other and members of the Commission, together with its secretariat and the British Council. In April 1981 a lively and well-attended conference was held at City University for Scholars from London and the South-east; and in November a similarly successful, though slightly smaller, conference was held at Rhodes House, Oxford for award holders in that area.

At the beginning of the 1981-82 academic year in the U.K., 536 Scholars (of all kinds) were holding awards, together with one Senior Medical Fellow, 41 Medical Fellows and 35 Academic Staff Fellows, making a total of 613.

The British Council continues to make a very substantial contribution to the successful running of the scheme in Britain by dealing with payments, travel, accommodation and other welfare and general matters related to the award holders. Scholars are met on their arrival in this country by representatives of the British Council and helped on their way to their place of study, where further assistance may be available from local British Council offices.

During the period 1 April 1981 to 31 March 1982 the following results achieved by its Scholars (some of whom had completed their scholarship tenure in a previous year) were reported to the Commission:- 68 doctorates, 43 master's degrees, eight bachelor's degrees, nine postgraduate diplomas and six higher medical qualifications.

During the year the Commission considered applications for Commonwealth Scholarships tenable overseas from 256 United Kingdom candidates, 58 of whom were applicants for the awards of two or of three of the 12 countries concerned. In fact, a total of 347 applications was received. After taking academic advice and interviewing short-listed candidates in December 1981, the Commission nominated 47 candidates to ten of the 12 countries. We are pleased to report that New Zealand has already announced the offer of its 1983 awards to two of our nominees, both of whom have accepted. In connection with the previous competitions reported on a year ago the Commission is now aware that of the British candidates then nominated 18 have taken up awards in the 1981-82 academic session.

In connection with the Ten Year Review of the Plan for the decade 1970-80 the U.K. Commission was asked to help in the formulation of the British response to the questionnaire circulated to all countries by the Commonwealth Secretariat. A special sub-committee met on two occasions, and a carefully drawn up report was submitted to the Overseas Development Administration which formed the basis of the British response to the Commonwealth Secretariat.

ANTIGUA

There have been no changes to the existing machinery to administer the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Antigua/Barbuda, nor have there been any alterations in the scope of the present programme.

Our concern to date is mainly the limited number of awards to which Antigua/Barbuda has been invited to make nominations and we would be particularly appreciative of any consideration which could be given to increasing the number, particularly of undergraduate/non-graduate awards to this country.

The benefits derived to date from this programme have been in the contributions, in the main, by those persons who were selected to pursue first degree courses under the Plan, and who were able to remain for lengthy periods while they developed programmes to enhance the national good.

BELIZE

No report has been received.

BERMUDA

No report has been received.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

No changes have taken place in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in the British Virgin Islands.

There is a need to adapt the Plan to support more undergraduate studies and training for professional qualifications.

No report on the operation of the Plan is published separately.

BRUNEI

Brunei has not instituted any award as part of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. However, offers for such Plan awards were received during the period from United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand and Jamaica.

There is no change in the machinery for the administration of the Plan.

Awards for undergraduate studies currently are obtainable for Brunei nationals through Government of Brunei Scholarship, Brunei Shell Company's Scholarship and Scholarship of HRH Pengiran Perdana Wazir Prince Mohammad Bolkiah. However, it would be certainly of benefit if Commonwealth Scholarship could include undergraduate studies under its scheme.

The most important area where such scholarship is welcome is in the field of practical and functional short trainings in both managerial and administrative development as well as technical aspects of government departments' administration.

Judgement on the benefits of the Plan would be rather premature since this Plan has just become operational in Brunei.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

No report has been received.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

No report has been received.

GIBRALTAR

As a nominating country we would wish the Plan to incorporate a scheme for undergraduate studies and training for professional and/or technical qualifications. As it stands at the moment, there is limited scope for graduates who return with even higher qualifications. What we require is a scheme which offers financial support for training for the needs of the community.

HONG KONG

As a nominating agency, the Education Department of the Hong Kong Government is responsible for the formation of the Selection Committee, the membership of which, as in previous years, represents a cross-section of higher and secondary education in Hong Kong, together with the local representatives of the various Commonwealth Scholarship awarding countries. The Chairman of the Committee is the Professor and Head of the Department of Biochemistry, University of Hong Kong, and the Secretary is an Education Officer of the Education Department. Hong Kong continues to derive very great benefits from the Plan and one of the criteria used in selecting nominees for awards is the usefulness and relevance of the proposed research programme to the needs of the Hong Kong community. Competition for the awards is very keen and the quality of the applicants continues to be high.

As an awarding country, Hong Kong offers postgraduate scholarships tenable at the two universities (the University of Hong Kong and The Chinese University of Hong Kong). The Education Department of the Hong Kong Government acts as the administrative agency, which appoints the Selection Committee, comprising two representatives from each of the two universities with the Senior Assistant Director of Education as Chairman and a Senior Education Officer as Secretary. There are at present seven scholarship holders studying for higher degrees in Civil Engineering, Geography, Medical Science, Music, History, Religious Studies and Sociology. Four awards were made during the period under review.

Extension of tenure of awards beyond two years to enable scholars to study for the Ph.D. degree or for other purposes is considered in each case on its own merit.

MONTSERRAT

No report has been received.

ST HELENA

Britain provides aid and courses in the U.K. for St Helenian government employees requiring further training. St Helena has no university and, as a grant-aided territory, offers no financial assistance to its own or other Commonwealth nationals.

ST KITTS-NEVIS

There has been no alteration in the machinery of the administration of the Plan or its general working, for the period 1 April 1981 to 31 March 1982.

All Commonwealth Scholars have returned to the State, and have benefited tremendously from their training. All Scholars have made practical use of their training, hence contributing to the smooth operation of the Institutions in which they are now working.

No official report will be published on the operation of the Plan in this State.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

In 1981-82 one nominee from the Turks and Caicos Islands was accepted for an award in the field of postgraduate legal studies. This was the first and only nomination submitted by the Turks and Caicos Islands.

The pool of people with the necessary qualifications for nomination is very small in the Turks and Caicos Islands. The population is approximately 7,500 and education is only offered to "O" Level except for a small, privately run secretarial college. Although some students do go on to university abroad, the majority who continue with their education study for professional and technical qualifications. In 1982 there are five Turks and Caicos Island graduates working in the country although there are a number of other graduates working abroad. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to make the existence of Commonwealth Scholarships known to all Turks and Caicos Islanders with the necessary qualifications.

The main need is for more scholarships at the professional and technical and undergraduate levels as well as at G.C.E. Advanced Level.

CANADA

The Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee continues to be the official agency of the Plan in Canada, with the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada providing the Secretariat. The new Secretary of the Committee is Mr A B Larose, who is Director of the Financial and Administrative Services Division of the AUCC.

During the year under report, 306 Canadians applied for awards offered by twelve Commonwealth countries and from this number, the Canadian Committee nominated 89 candidates. Furthermore, 263 applications were submitted by forty nominating countries for the 1982 Canadian Commonwealth Scholarships, and nineteen nominations were submitted by Canadian Educational Agencies for the Visiting and Research Fellowships.

The Canadian Committee has voiced its concern about the limited value of some references. The application specifies that two references should be from academics under whom the candidate has studied. In several cases the references are submitted by employers and are usually written in general terms; this deprives the Committee of the academic assessment which it should have.

The Canadian Committee believes that the Plan in Canada is running smoothly and attributes this in part to the co-operation which has been given by Canadian Universities and to the valuable assistance and encouragement provided by the scholars' course supervisors. The results have been gratifying and it is a pleasure to report that all but a very few of the scholars have done work of high quality, many indeed having outstanding records.

CYPRUS

Cyprus has no institution of University Level, and therefore, she is only a nominating country under the Plan. The scholarship agency continues to be the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The responsible authority for selection of candidates for nomination continues to be the Scholarship Board, Nicosia.

Commonwealth Scholarships are given wide publicity in Cyprus and especially the undergraduate studies attract a big number of applications.

During the year under review Canada has made two awards for undergraduate studies in Economics; U.K. four awards for undergraduate studies in Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Economics; and India one scholarship for postgraduate studies in Economics.

Britain has renewed the awards of six scholars, namely: Papachristodoulou, Kaplanis, Zodhiades, Efsthathiou, Christodoulou and Hji Antoniou, to complete their studies in U.K. Three scholars completed their studies in U.K., gaining B.Sc. Degrees in Mathematics, Chemical Engineering and Economics. Canada has renewed the awards of two candidates, namely: Anastassiades and Stylianou to complete their studies. Two scholars completed their studies, gaining B.Sc. Degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Economics and Politics.

DOMINICA

Dominica has no changes to report in the administration and operation of the Plan.

FIJI

Apart from the fact that Australia does not offer CSFP awards any more, there has been no change to either our machinery or to the scope of the scheme as far as Fiji is concerned.

As a nominating agency our stand is the same - that awards should be for longer periods also, to allow for some postgraduate courses which may be for as long as five years. It would also be in our interest if undergraduate studies in the technical/professional areas were included.

We are satisfied with the training that our people have done on the scheme.

No reports on the Plan have been produced to date, neither is there any due for publishing.

THE GAMBIA

No report has been received.

GHANA

The Scholarships Secretariat continues to be the Scholarship agency for administering awards made under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan.

Ghana has not increased the number of awards nor have any new awards been instituted.

However, having regard to the popularity the awards have gained with the Ghanaian Youth, it is unfortunate that during the year under review, some awarding countries from whom Ghana had hitherto received awards made no offers to Ghana while some awards made received no confirmation.

While we acknowledge the invaluable benefits the country has so far derived from what is principally a postgraduate scheme, it is high time some provision was made under the scheme for undergraduate training to provide much needed manpower in fields of Veterinary Medicine, such paramedical areas as Dietetics, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and other manpower areas which are vital to national development but which Ghana and some other participating countries have no training facilities of their own.

We support the idea that the length of awards should be adhered to but extensions of awards could be granted when these are to enable the students attain the objective for which the awards had been made.

Considerable benefit is derived by both the students and the employers from the experience gained as well on the programme, and Ghana welcomes the opportunity of participating in the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. The advantages of the plan are numerous. It affords Commonwealth students the opportunity to meet other Commonwealth citizens by studying in their universities and to know themselves better. It promotes the building up of the Commonwealth brotherhood and the eradication of prejudices and that the plan should continue to play its useful role in the educational programme of the Commonwealth countries.

There have not been reports on the operation of the plan so far.

GRENADA

No report has been received.

GUYANA

The machinery set up for the administration of the Plan remained unchanged during the period under review, and the Public Service Ministry continues to be the Agency responsible for the Plan in Guyana.

Response to advertisements continues to be encouraging. To us it seems advisable for the Plan to remain primarily for postgraduate work but with sufficient flexibility to accommodate undergraduate studies where desirable.

Generally the courses pursued by Guyanese Scholars are relevant both to their own needs and those of the Country.

Guyana expresses its gratitude to those Commonwealth Nations which continue to consolidate the bonds of friendship by the maintenance of facilities for the exchange of knowledge, through the Plan.

INDIA

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to be administered by the Ministry of Education and Culture during the period 1 April 1981 to 31 March 1982. There has been no change both in the scope and content of the programme and the number of awards offered by the Government of India which remained the same, i.e. 50, as in the previous years. While this number remains constant, slight adjustments are made in the number of scholarships offered to the various countries within the Commonwealth depending on their requirements vis-a-vis the actual utilisation of the awards by various countries during the year 1981-82.

We have observed that some countries are unable to fully utilise the scholarships offered by the Government of India. This may, perhaps, be due to the faulty mechanism and delays in procedure. If the nominating country ensures that only those candidates are nominated who are fully eligible in terms of qualifications, age and experience as indicated in the offer of award the chances of under utilisation of offer of scholarships will be remote. Secondly, as the time schedule for nomination and selection is uniform and is known in advance to the nominating agencies, procedural delays can be minimised if advance action is taken by the nominating agency.

The following additional suggestions are, however, offered for consideration:-

(i) The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan may be broad-based. It should cater to the needs at undergraduate level in professional or technical courses and for all fields at postgraduate/research level.

(ii) As far as possible, the duration of the award may be fixed and known to the nominating country. In this connection, the Ministry suggest as under:-

(a) Three - four years for undergraduate studies, and no extension should be granted for such courses.

(b) Two years for postgraduate studies.

(c) Two years for doctoral research, with a possibility of one year's extension for further studies.

Only under special circumstances the extension under (b) and (c) would be considered.

In so far as Item (c) of Part I of the Questionnaire is concerned, the following comments are offered with India as a nominating country:-

(i) Based on the past experience, the duration of the award should be decided in such a way that the possibility of any extension of the period in individual cases is reduced to the extent that it is required only in rare circumstances and does not become a matter of routine as has been observed in the past cases. This is desired to avoid administrative/audit complications involved in the matter. Any scholar may, however, complete the course of study at any time before the expiry of the period for which the award is to remain valid.

(ii) Any proposal for extension may be intimated to the nominating country well in advance and should not be decided by the awardee country without the consent of the nominating country.

(iii) The Plan may support undergraduate courses in cases where facilities for the same are not available in the nominating countries.

JAMAICA

The Scholarships Section of the Ministry of Education continued to administer the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan for the year under review - 1 April 1981 to 31 March 1982 - on behalf of the Government of Jamaica.

1. As an Awarding Agency

There were no major changes in the operation of the Plan, but there was a review of the maintenance allowances paid to postgraduate scholars holding the Jamaican Award. This was increased to J\$4,000.00 per annum for study at the Mona Campus of the U.W.I., and TT\$8,500.00 and TT\$800.00 per annum for maintenance and books, respectively, for study at the St Augustine Campus. A further review was made later and this will increase the annual maintenance allowances to J\$5,400.00 and TT\$10,500.00 in the next report year.

In September, the 1981 Award was taken up at the St Augustine Campus of the U.W.I. by one of the four Ugandan nominees.

Regrettably, the 1980 Award had to be terminated in December 1981 as the scholar, though an otherwise excellent candidate, had insufficient language proficiency to pursue the degree in English.

(We must at this point acknowledge our deep appreciation to the staff of the University of the West Indies as well as of other Agencies of the Government for their cooperation and understanding in facilitating the various scholars under the Plan.)

As a consequence, all future scholars whose native language is not English will be required to sit an English Proficiency Test set by the U.W.I., before final confirmation of Award is given.

Again this year we had to extend our deadline for receipt of nominations for Jamaica 1982 to March 26 at the request of various countries as nominations continued to be delayed, in part because our invitations to nominate were delayed in the mail, even though despatched in July 1981. However, if late submissions cannot be avoided, we stress that all supporting documents be submitted along with the application forms.

For the 1982 award we received a total of twenty (20) nominations from thirteen (13) countries in addition to a self-nominated candidate.

2. As a Nominating Agency

The major activity for the year were the functions of a nominating agency. During the report period invitations to nominate were received from Canada, Hong Kong, Nigeria, the United Kingdom, "Australia 83" and "New Zealand 83", for which applications were, as usual, requested through the Press. A total of one hundred and six (106) applications was received: Canada - 56; Hong Kong - 2; Nigeria - 4; U.K. - 33; "Australia 83" - 10 and "New Zealand 83" - 1. Nominations were submitted for: Hong Kong - 1; Canada - 9; U.K. - 8; "Australia 82" - 3; "New Zealand 82" - 2. (The Nigerian offer had to be abandoned through lack of communication between both Agencies.)

Of the nominations submitted for "Australia 82", one so far has been unsuccessful. No further word was heard about Nigeria 81, the nominee for which was provisionally selected for an Award. However, three (3) and two (2) Awards were offered and taken up for U.K. 81 and Canada 81, respectively, in September 1981. At the time of reporting, Canada 82 has provisionally selected for awards, five (5) plus two (2) reserves.

Returning from Awards were six (6) scholars: from Canada (3), U.K. (2) and Australia (1), three of whom have so far been re-employed, two in the Government service.

3. General

We are satisfied, in general, with the working of the Plan and congratulate the Commonwealth Secretariat on its administration. We also extend our gratitude to the Awarding countries and especially for awards received for undergraduate study in vital areas of need, which is very commendable. However, we feel that most awards should be reserved for postgraduate studies.

It is our wish that more countries who have instituted awards would invite us to submit nominations.

Returning scholars continue to be generally satisfied with their awards.

At this time there is no plan for any proposed official report to be published.

Further comments on the operation of the Plan may also be had in more detail from information supplied in response to a request on the Ten Year Review, submitted to the Education Division, Commonwealth Secretariat.

KENYA

No changes have taken place since April 1981 in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan. The title and address of the Commonwealth Scholarship agency remains the same.

The Scheme is operating quite well in Kenya and more candidates are taking interest in the Scheme. However, there is a need to adapt the Plan to support more undergraduate studies and training for professional and technical qualifications.

All Commonwealth Scholars who have returned from overseas on completion of their studies have been absorbed.

KIRIBATI

The administration of training in Kiribati is performed by two different government bodies; namely the Ministry of Education, Training and Culture and the Office of the President. The former deals specifically with training for individuals in the private sector and the latter with those in the government sector. In effect private individuals who are interested in a Commonwealth Scholarship have their nominations processed through the Ministry of Education, Training and Culture, while government-employed candidates would have their nominations processed by the Office of the President.

Kiribati has not as yet instituted any awards. It has not become an awarding country.

As a nominating country we have for the first time nominated candidates for the Jamaican Commonwealth Award 1982. As a young newly independent nation with a very small stock of University graduates (about 50 altogether at the end of 1981) postgraduate awards are not popular at this stage. For the next five years the emphasis would probably lean towards undergraduate awards and beyond that postgraduate awards would gradually catch interest.

LESOTHO

No report has been received.

MALAWI

Malawi has submitted no statement for this report.

MALAYSIA

Malaysia has submitted no statement for this report.

MALTA

The Administration for the award of Scholarships under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is entrusted to the Department of Education. A local Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee is appointed every year to make recommendations for the submission of nominations for these awards.

During the period 1 April 1981 - 31 March 1982, new scholarships were awarded under this Plan as follows:

1. Miss Doreen Camilleri to read for a Ph.D in Forensic Science in the United Kingdom.
2. Mr Albert Farrugia to read for a Higher Degree in Clinical Chemistry in the United Kingdom.
3. Mr Peter Fava Boffa to read for a Diploma/Degree in Guidance and Counselling in New Zealand.
4. Mr Michael Fenech to read for a Ph.D in Genetics in Australia.

During the period 1 April 1981 - 31 March 1982 eleven scholars were on scholarship as follows:

1. Mr Robert Borg to read for a Ph.D degree in Organic Chemistry in Canada.
2. Miss Josephine Caruana to read for an MA in Linguistics in the United Kingdom.
3. Mr Joseph Cassar for Research in Properties of Concrete in the United Kingdom.
4. Miss May Cassar to read for a degree in Archaeology with Conservation in the United Kingdom.
5. Mr Donald Friggieri to read for a BA (Hons) in Three-Dimensional Design in the United Kingdom.
6. Mr Paul Gauci to read for an MA in Regional Planning and Resource Development in Canada.
7. Miss Maureen Grech Marguerat to read for a degree of Bachelor in Social Work in Australia.
8. Mr Louis Mallia to read for the Master of Applied Science in Chemical Technology in Australia.
9. Mr Anthony Meli to read for a Degree in Business Administration (Agricultural Studies) in Australia.
10. Miss Jennifer Pace to follow a Degree Course in Human Kinetics in Canada.
11. Mr Louis Zammit Mangion for Research in Physics leading to Ph.D in the United Kingdom.

No official report on the operation of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is published in Malta.

Under this Plan Malta offers one scholarship to enable a scholar from a country in the Commonwealth to undergo studies at the University of Malta or the Technical Institutes in Malta. During the period 1 April 1981 - 31 March 1982 a student from Mauritius was undergoing a course leading to the degree of Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering.

Maltese nationals who are awarded Commonwealth Scholarships are required to return to Malta on completion of their studies abroad. These scholars make a valuable contribution towards the continued social and industrial development of this country.

Publicity for these awards is given through Press Releases and other means of communication, i.e. Radio, Television and the Local Relay System.

MAURITIUS

The administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Mauritius continues to be the sole responsibility of the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs. There has been no change in the selection and nomination of the candidates. It is quite encouraging to say that we get a lot of applications from the public when scholarships from Commonwealth countries are advertised in the local Press.

Mauritius is still a nominating agency, laying emphasis on the scientific and technological fields of study such as Computer Science, Engineering, Medicine, Irrigation and Water Management, Sciences, Valuation Surveying.

Leave of absence is usually given to Government employees selected for awards. It is felt that the Plan should be adapted to support more undergraduate studies in order to cater for the ever increasing Form VI leavers. Consideration should also be given to training for professional and technical qualifications.

NAURU

No report has been received.

NEW ZEALAND

The administration of the Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships Scheme in New Zealand continues as before. We are able to report that over the last two years the full quota of 15 scholars each year has been taken up with, this year, six coming from African countries. One of our problems in the past has been the late arrival of applications particularly from Africa and India and I am glad to report that this difficulty has largely been resolved. Our only worry now is the considerable time taken for correspondence from here even by cable and air mail to reach the African countries but we hope to overcome this problem for the next competition.

At the present time we have 43 scholars in New Zealand from 19 different countries.

NIGERIA

No change or addition has taken place in the administrative machinery of the CSFP in Nigeria. The title and address of this machinery remains "The Federal Ministry of Education, Scholarships Section, PMB 12573, Lagos".

No new awards have been instituted and Nigerian awards remain at 15. Interviews were held in London, Ottawa and New York for Nigerian applicants in the UK and Canada respectively. Results of all interviews held abroad were assessed with those held in Nigeria before nominations were made.

As a nominating country, Nigeria's problem remains that of too many qualified candidates vying for very few awards that are on offer. An appeal is hereby being made for the developed countries to increase the number of awards being made available to Nigeria.

As an awarding country we are still of the opinion that not enough publicity is being given to our awards by other Commonwealth agencies. In this reporting period there are 15 awards on offer. Six (6) nominations have been received. An extension of one academic year has been granted to one of the Scholars.

We are of the opinion that the Plan should remain principally a scheme for postgraduate University Study but where necessary it should be extended to accommodate the training of professional and technical manpower.

Most of our Commonwealth Scholars usually come home at the end of their courses abroad. They are often employed in the Universities, research institutes and University Teaching Hospitals where they demonstrate the academic and professional expertise acquired from their studies abroad.

Summary: We still support the existence and enlargement of the Plan, as we still need many qualified men and women to cope with our rapid national development.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

The Plan is now being administered by the Public Services Commission instead of the Prime Minister's Office. Papua New Guinea is not an awarding country. As the Plan presently covers postgraduate study, its value to Papua New Guinea is limited. Papua New Guinea would find it more valuable if the Plan were adapted to support undergraduate studies and professional or technical training, provided the Plan can accommodate, or be altered to accommodate increased numbers which would result.

There are no plans to produce a separate report on the Plan in Papua New Guinea.

ST LUCIA

No report has been received.

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan is seen mainly as a scheme which enables persons to pursue post-graduate study and it is only requests for training at this level which we have in the past put forward. However, if it could be pointed out which specific areas of under-graduate study are usually given favourable consideration, the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines would be happy to include applications for under-graduate study in our submission for Commonwealth Scholarship awards.

This Government is now placing a heavy emphasis on Industrial Development, Agricultural Diversification, Fisheries Development and Food Processing, and training at both undergraduate and postgraduate level in areas of study relating to these fields is urgently required. This is in addition to the usual education-related training.

The response to our advertisements for Commonwealth Scholarships and indeed all post-graduate training is not usually encouraging in spite of the fact that employment opportunities for such persons are readily available. The main drawback would appear to be the bonding agreement which the candidate must enter into with the Government prior to his/her taking up an award. Such persons would probably have served a bonding period before and see another bonding agreement as a tiresome affair.

Government Officers who are granted study leave to take up an offer of training receive full pay for the first year of such training and half pay for the remainder of the course.

SEYCHELLES

The Agency set up for the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan has continued to be the Ministry of Education and Information, Mont-Fleuri, Mahé, Seychelles.

Seychelles's immediate need is undergraduate studies and training for professional and technical qualifications.

Not being an awarding country and without a university, we would appreciate it if awarding countries; e.g. Canada, U.K., New Zealand, etc., could also offer training at undergraduate level, taking into account our manpower training needs instead of purely academic excellence.

SIERRA LEONE

The machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Sierra Leone has not changed. In 1981 we instituted the offer of two awards annually for postgraduate courses tenable in Sierra Leone under the CSFP covering:

1. Travelling to and from Sierra Leone
2. Tuition)
3. Maintenance) as will be stipulated by the University
4. Books allowance - Le200.00

5. Research allowance - Le160.00
6. Personal allowance - Le 60.00 per month

The awards are for a two year duration. Selection is by academic excellence and development needs of the nominating country.

As a nominating country, we appreciate the range of fields supplied by the awarding countries because most times the fields coincide with our priority areas. Sometimes, however, because of our stage of development, there are areas of training which are not catered for. It would be useful therefore if we could encourage consultation before deciding on training areas.

SINGAPORE

The Singapore Public Service Commission continues to administer the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. There has been no change in the administration of the Plan during the period under review.

Altogether seven awards were granted to Singapore by United Kingdom, Australia and Canada. The area of study under these awards are Linguistics, Business Administration, Concrete Structures, Construction Management, Fire Engineering and Computer Science.

Commonwealth Scholars have benefited considerably from their studies overseas and, upon their return, they are able to make valuable contributions to their respective Ministries/Department where they were deployed.

The length of awards from Ph.D. studies under UK Commonwealth Scholarships should not be limited to only three years as a student normally needs at least four years to complete a Ph.D. degree (including M.Phil.).

SOLOMON ISLANDS

No report has been received.

SRI LANKA

There have been no changes in the machinery for the administration of the Plan in Sri Lanka.

SWAZILAND

No report has been received.

TANZANIA

No report has been received.

TONGA

Tonga has submitted no statement for this report.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to work smoothly in Trinidad and Tobago between 1 April 1981 and 31 March 1982.

No changes have taken place in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Trinidad and Tobago, either from the standpoint of a nominating or an awarding country.

The Commonwealth Scholars who have returned to Trinidad and Tobago have continued to make a meaningful contribution to the country. As one of the main factors taken into consideration when candidates are elected for nomination for awards under the Plan is the priority needs of the country, the studies of such Commonwealth Scholars have been of relevance to the institutions in which they are employed.

No official report on the operation of the Plan in Trinidad and Tobago has been published.

TUVALU

No report has been received.

UGANDA

No report has been received.

VANUATU

No report has been received.

WESTERN SAMOA

No report has been received.

ZAMBIA

There have been no changes in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Zambia.

India has now started offering Zambia scholarships, on the basis of the Commonwealth Scheme, for postgraduate studies but which would be utilised for undergraduate or other courses for which facilities are not available in Zambia. The offers are tenable for two years but extensions are possible.

As a nominating agency, we need ample time before the deadline of submission of nominations as the process involves; advertising the scholarships which takes time to reach remote rural areas as well as the applications to reach the processing Secretariat for consideration.

The Awarding country should therefore make the offers known to the Nominating agency in good time. It is also of utmost importance that Awarding Country honour all the scholarships offered by accepting the appropriate number of nominations.

As there are more facilities for undergraduate scholarship studies on other scholarship plans or schemes, it is necessary that the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme is restricted to postgraduate studies only in the case of Zambia.

It is of utmost importance that the Zambian nationals offered Commonwealth Scholarships return to Zambia without unnecessary delays upon graduation. No extensions or further studies should be entered into without the authority of the Bursaries Committee.

ZIMBABWE

No report has been received.