

**SUMMARY OF THE WORKING OF THE PLAN
IN THE COMMONWEALTH COUNTRIES**

ANTIGUA

No report has been received

AUSTRALIA

The Department of Education has continued to administer awards made available by Australia to the developed Commonwealth countries (United Kingdom, Canada, New Zealand). The Department is also the Australian nominating authority for awards offered by all Commonwealth countries. The Australian Development Assistance Bureau (A.D..A.B.) has continued to administer awards made available by Australia to the developing Commonwealth countries.

Arrangements for awardees under C.S.F.P operated satisfactorily during the reporting period. There have been no changes in administration procedures.

The number of awards on offer has remained the same. However, living allowances and other benefits were increased with effect from January 1985.

The trend for postgraduate scholars to require extensions to awards has continued.

BAHAMAS

No statement has been submitted for this summary.

BANGLADESH

No report has been received.

BARBADOS

There have been no additions or changes in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Barbados, neither has there been any alteration in the scope of existing programmes.

It should be noted that there has been an increase in the number of awards offered by Canada and that such awards are also offered for undergraduate study in areas where the facilities for such study are not available in the nominating country. It is hoped that the Canadian initiative could be initiated by the other awarding countries.

Commonwealth Scholars are bonded to return to Barbados at the end of their course of study and usually secure employment in their respective disciplines; by which the country benefits from their training.

BELIZE

During the period 1 April 1984 and 31 March 1985 the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to be operative giving opportunities for postgraduate work. These Scholarships and Fellowships fill a definite need in our developmental plans especially as Belize has no university. No change has been introduced in the administration of the Plan. Belize has not instituted any awards.

So far all candidates who receive awards have returned to the country and invariably returned to the posts they held before they received their awards. Their increased knowledge and expertise have been put to good use in work.

The Plan is beneficial to Belize but it would be good if the number of awards can be increased. Sometimes no award is given to Belizean candidates.

The areas of greatest relevance to our country presently are undergraduate and postgraduate attachments on short courses particularly in professional, vocational and technical education, but we are most grateful for certificate and diploma courses in these fields.

BERMUDA

There have been no changes in the operation of the Plan.

Commonwealth Scholars continue to return home on completion of their studies and to make valuable contributions to Bermuda. A former U.K. Scholar, who initially was granted permission to go to an African country with his spouse, is now residing in Bermuda and making a significant contribution in the realm of post-secondary education (Deputy Head of Department of Academic Studies, Bermuda College). It is worthy of note that even the Scholars who failed to attain their initial goals during the tenure of their Scholarships have returned home and contributed in significant ways to the life of the community.

Subsequent to the Cyprus Conference we have received formal invitations to nominate candidates to Australia and have had an increase in the number of candidates that we may nominate to Canada.

BOTSWANA

The machinery for administering the Plan is still the same, Botswana has not yet instituted awards for the C.S.F.P.

Botswana would benefit more if the Plan could be extended to undergraduate studies such as veterinary medicine, electrical engineering, medicine and architecture. Facilities for such courses are not available locally. We would be very much interested in receiving C.S.F.P. offers from other countries.

All nominations submitted by the Ministry of Education fall within our national priorities. The interviewing committee represents interests of the public service, local government and the private sector.

If the allowance received by a Botswana government scholar is less than what the Government of Botswana pays for its students in that particular country, the Government will top up the difference.

BRITAIN

During 1984 the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom entered its twenty-sixth year as an agency for the Plan with the Association of Commonwealth Universities providing its secretariat. Sir Michael Walker G.C.M.G. is the Chairman of the Commission and the joint Secretaries are Dr A. Christodoulou C.B.E. and Mr E. E. Temple O.B.E.

Mr Temple whose major responsibilities in the Association have always been for Commission matters paid visits during the year to the scholarship agencies and to universities in Canada, Cyprus, Malaysia, Malta, Singapore and Sri Lanka. He welcomed the opportunity to meet or renew acquaintance with secretariat officials in these countries and to have helpful discussions about Plan activities of common concern.

Britain's principal role is that of a host country; and it is good to report that for the second year running, as a result of the Government's increased funding, the Commission was supporting in the U.K. a total of about 800 Fellows and Scholars. They came from some 46 Commonwealth countries. Towards the end of the year under report award holders included 551 Commonwealth Scholars, 140 Academic Staff Scholars, 49 Academic Staff Fellows, 40 Medical Fellows and one Senior Medical Fellow.

Most Scholars come to Britain to pursue studies for higher degrees and other qualifications and the following results were reported in the course of the year: 104 doctorates, 95 master's degrees or the equivalent, nine bachelor's degrees, 16 postgraduate diplomas and seven higher medical qualifications granted by bodies other than universities. Some of these results were obtained by Scholars whose awards had expired before April 1984 but were notified in the reporting year. It has long been said, on general evidence, that Commonwealth Scholars and Commonwealth Academic Staff Scholars are persons of high ability and performance. A more precise investigation was undertaken during the year, the result of the whole of the 1979 intake of 216 Scholars and reports on them being examined in detail. The investigation produced evidence of a high level of achievement overall, whether the Scholars came for degree or diploma work, for postdoctoral research or other courses not directed towards any qualification. A degree or diploma was obtained by 174 of the 216 Scholars, and of the other 42 only 13 (six per cent of the whole intake) could be regarded as having failed to achieve an entirely satisfactory standard.

The Academic Staff awards are for members of staff of universities in the developing countries of the Commonwealth who have been nominated by their Vice-Chancellors. The Scholarships have parallel conditions to those under the general scheme and the Fellowships are awarded to senior members of staff, already fully qualified, for 10 months advanced study or research linked to the needs of their universities. Fellows who came to Britain in 1984 represented 37 universities in 12 countries. Reports showed that old links between British and overseas universities were being strengthened and new ones were being forged as a result of the Fellowships.

Awards are made in a wide range of disciplines and a number of them are reserved for study in the field of medicine. The group of 551 Commonwealth Scholars mentioned above included in 41 Medical Scholars, most of them undergoing training with a higher degree or professional qualification in view. Medical studies at a senior level are provided for by the Medical Fellowships which are available for teachers of medical students. Programmes lasting a year are individually designed to enhance the Fellows' experience and may combine research with advanced clinical training.

It has long been the practice to hold conferences of award holders in different parts of Britain. This year successful conferences were held in Glasgow and Oxford where Scholars and Fellows met informally to exchange views and discuss problems with members of the Commission and staff of the secretariat and British Council.

The British Council has continued to play an important part in the Commission's activities and to take particular responsibility for payments, travel and reception, and other support services for award-holders.

Less extensive than its role as an awarding country but no less important is Britain's role as a nominating country. Wide publicity was given between April and October to the availability of the awards being offered by 11 countries and resulted in 309 applications being received (compared with 287 in 1983). Some 128 short-listed candidates were interviewed in early December in London by members of the Commission and representatives of the awarding countries. Subsequently 67 nominations were forwarded to 11 countries. A total of 28 candidates were offered awards and 24 of these accepted and took them up between October 1984 and March 1985.

It was mentioned in last year's Report that some Scholars in developing countries where the values of awards had not been changed for many years were experiencing degrees of financial hardship. It has been gratifying to hear of some real steps being taken to remedy matters and it is hoped that more countries will try to negotiate increases in the scholarship stipends they offer.

A full account of the Commission's activities in the year ending 30 September 1984 is to be found in its twenty-fifth Annual Report published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office.

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS

The British Virgin Islands have not been fully utilising the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. This I think is due mainly to the locations of tenure of the scholarships.

While no official report on the operation of the Plan in the British Virgin Islands has been published or is planned to be published in the near future, the scholarships do receive sufficient exposure to the public via radio and newspaper.

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Negara Brunei Darussalam welcomes the establishment of Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan and has reaffirmed its endorsement to this scheme in the Commonwealth Education Ministers' Conference in 1984 in Cyprus. However, between the period 1984 and 1985, this country has not been able to operate this scheme. We have, however, received several offers of scholarship for higher education from fellow Commonwealth countries during this period. Due to the lack of personnel and qualified candidates these scholarships could not be utilised. Reciprocally as we have no places of higher learning as yet we are in no position to offer scholarships to overseas students.

Normally the Commonwealth Scholarship scheme is channelled to the training unit of the Planning and Development Section of the Brunei Education Department.

CANADA

The official agency of the Plan in Canada is the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee. The Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada provides the secretariat to the Committee through its International Relations and Scholarship Administration Division. During the year under report, the Committee was chaired by Professor T.H.B. Symons, Vanier Professor at Trent University. The Government of Canada, through the Canadian International Development Agency, funds the operation of the Plan in Canada and during the year under report, provided the emoluments and benefits described in detail in Appendix II.

Under this Plan, Canada is both an awarding and a nominating country. As a nominating country, 799 Canadians applied for awards in 11 Commonwealth countries, and from this number 173 nominations were made. As an awarding country, Canada requested 595 nominations and received 519.

At the beginning of the 1984 academic year, 295 Scholars held awards in Canada, with eight Fellows making a total of 303. This number includes 82 new Scholarships and eight new Fellowships. In order to maintain a direct and personal contact with award holders, regional meetings are organised from time to time where members of the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee or personnel from the Plan's secretariat may discuss topics of mutual concern with Scholars. For the year under report Commonwealth Scholars in the Toronto area attending McMaster and York Universities, the University of Toronto and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education met with the Committee at Massey College at the University of Toronto where a reception marked the Committee's celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Plan. The supervisor of university and student liaison of the A.U.C.C. secretariat was also able to meet Commonwealth Scholars in Western Canada.

The Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Committee was also pleased to welcome Mr. Edgar Temple, Joint Secretary of the British Commonwealth Scholarship Commission, to Canada. Mr Temple's contribution to the Plan is much appreciated by his Canadian colleagues who were pleased to be able to express their gratitude in person.

In 1983, the third volume of the report of the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's commission on Canadian studies was published under the title "Some Questions of Balance; Human resources, Higher Education and Canadian Studies". In the final chapter devoted to foreign students, the report's authors, T.H.B. Symons and James Page, call on the Canadian Government to increase scholarships for foreign students, especially those from the Commonwealth.

In March 1984, the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada's Board of Directors unanimously passed a resolution calling for an increase in the number of awards offered under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Canada. In a letter to the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the President of the Association pointed out the importance of the Plan to Commonwealth student mobility and referred to the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Commonwealth Secretariat as well as the financial support offered by Britain under the "Pym package". Thus, at the Ninth Commonwealth Education Ministers' Conference in July 1984, in Cyprus, the Canadian delegation was able to announce that the Canadian Government had approved an additional 200 scholarships under its commitment to the Plan beginning in 1985-86, bringing the total number of Commonwealth Scholars to be supported in Canada at any one time to 500. The impact of this very welcome decision is now being felt by the secretariat as the number of nominations requested for scholarships tenable from September 1985 is about double the usual number. It is heartening to note that, while budget restrictions have recently necessitated cuts in other Government of Canada supported scholarship programmes, the commitment to the Plan's increase in Canada has been maintained.

Although letters requesting nominations sent by the secretariat to other Commonwealth agencies underline the importance for practical reasons of adhering to agreed upon deadlines and format for submission of nominations, it was found once again that some countries send nominations well past the deadline and with insufficient supporting documentation to allow consideration for placement or admission in a Canadian university programme. It would be much appreciated by the Canadian agency were Commonwealth agencies in other countries to be more scrupulous in their attention to these administrative details.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

One can expect very little response from these Islands at our present stage of development to invitations to nominate candidates. Most Commonwealth Scholarships favour the postgraduate students and Cayman has very few of those who are able to proceed for further study.

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 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 U.K. has made two awards for undergraduate studies in civil engineering and electronic engineering. Canada has made one award for undergraduate studies in civil engineering, New Zealand one award for postgraduate studies in civil engineering and Australia one award for postgraduate studies in reproductive physiology.

Britain has renewed the awards of eight scholars, namely Pavlides, Miranthis, Rialas, Antoniadou, Christou, Michaelides, Constantinidou and Constantinou to complete their studies. Four scholars completed their studies in Canada and gained B.Sc. degrees in economics, civil engineering and mechanical engineering.

DOMINICA

No statement has been received for this summary.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

The Falkland Islands does not have any current, recently returned, or nominated Commonwealth Scholars. (M.J. Bound was granted suspension of status at Lincoln College, Oxford for three years from 1983.

FIJI

Our involvement as a nominating country has continued in the same manner it did in the last report period. Offers are as usual given ample media publicity and in the Fiji Public Service official circular. The advertisement informs potential candidates of basic details of available awards and also of the country's priority areas of study that we would like applicants to seek scholarships for. Applications received are processed at the Training and Scholarships Division of the Public Service Commission and the final interviews and selections are carried out by the Fiji Government Scholarship Committee.

Scholars are bonded before departure to return and work as the Fiji Government wishes. This requirement however does not limit benefits to the civil service. The awards are for all Fiji citizens and bond service is possible in both the civil service as well as in non-civil service organisations.

Three students returned after successfully completing their courses and are usefully employed as follows: (i) A. Kaloumaira - Senior Engineer with the Drainage and Irrigation Section of the Ministry of Primary Industries, now Acting Principal Engineer, a post formerly occupied by an expatriate; (ii) P.C. Shandil - Employed as an Assistant Engineer, Designs Section, Suva City Council; (iii) S.D. Sharma - Medical Officer (T.B.), Tamavua Hospital, Ministry of Health.

THE GAMBIA

No report has been received.

GHANA

No report has been received.

GIBRALTAR

In early October 1984 applications were invited from local residents for nomination to awards from the following awarding countries: U.K., Canada, Hong Kong and Jamaica. Three applicants were interviewed by the local Commonwealth Scholarship Agency. One of the applicants, who was abroad and unable to attend was considered in his absence at his request. Three applications were received for the U.K. 1985 and two applications for the Canada 1985 awards. Two of the applicants applied for both U.K. 1985 and Canada 1985. No applications were received for Hong Kong or for Jamaica.

GRENADA

No report has been received.

GUYANA

The Training Division of the Ministry of Education, continued to be the primary agency responsible for the administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Guyana during the period under review. The response to advertisement continues to be encouraging. The courses pursued by Guyanese scholars remain relevant to their own needs and those of the country.

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

HONG KONG

As a nominating agency, the Education Department of the Hong Kong Government is responsible for the function 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 Selection Committee is the Professor of Surgery, Faculty of Medicine, The Chinese University of Hong Kong. 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 applicants continues to be high.

As an awarding country, Hong Kong offers four postgraduate scholarships tenable at the two local 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 five scholarship holders studying for higher degrees in Chinese art, modern Chinese literature, Chinese history, Chinese language and comparative Asian studies and sociology. Four awards were made during the period under review. However, one applicant withdrew and one applicant discontinued his scholarship due to personal reasons.

Extension of tenure of awards beyond two years to enable a scholar to study for their Ph.D. degree or for other purpose is considered in each case on its own merit.

INDIA

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to be administered by the Ministry of Education, Government of India during the period 1 April 1984 to 31 March 1985. There has been no change in the scope and content of the programme, and the number of awards offered by the Government of India remained the same i.e. 50 as in previous years. While this number remained constant, slight adjustments were made in the number of Scholarships offered to various countries within the Commonwealth depending on their requirements vis-a-vis the actual utilisation of the awards by various countries during the year 1984-85.

It may be mentioned here that, as announced by India's Minister at the Ninth Commonwealth Conference of Education Ministers held in Nicosia, Cyprus in July 1984, India has increased its offer of Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships from 50 to 75 with effect from the year 1985-86.

As in the past, it has been observed that some countries do not fully utilise the Scholarships offered by the Government of India. It is reiterated that each nominating country should ensure at the beginning that only those candidates are nominated who are fully eligible in terms of qualifications, age, experience, etc. as indicated in the letter offering the awards. This will minimise the chances of rejection of a candidate. The deadline for nomination should also be strictly adhered to.

As regards outgoing Scholars, our experience is that only a few Commonwealth countries offer Scholarships to Indian nationals. While most of the offers come from the U.K. and Canada, offers are also received from Australia, New Zealand, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago. However, even in these countries, the number of Indians finally accepted is only 50 to 60% of the nominations invited. We would like this percentage to go up substantially, particularly in countries like the U.K., Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

JAMAICA

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan for the year under review 1 April 1984 to 31 March 1985 again fell under the administration of the Ministry of Education for the Government of Jamaica.

No major changes occurred in the operation of the Plan. The 1984 scholar from Canada had his award deferred to 1985. The 1981 awardee continued his Ph.D. degree programme. For the 1985 award 36 nominations were received from 21 countries, but nominating agencies continue to submit incomplete papers well after the deadline thereby causing serious delays in our selection.

For the period under review invitations to nominate were received from Canada, United Kingdom, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Australia and New Zealand 1986 for which applications were invited through the press. Applications were received from 180 persons: Canada 70, United Kingdom 49, Hong Kong 9, Nigeria 8, AUstralia 26, New Zealand 18.

This agency made nominations for Canada (21), Hong Kong (1), United Kingdom (12), Nigeria (3).

KENYA

Kenya is only a nominating country. There have been no changes in the machinery set up for the administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. Our regular awarding countries are Britain, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Jamaica, Australia and India. Sri Lanka did not offer any award in 1984. New Zealand has been offering awards but none of our nominees have been successful. Hong Kong has been offering awards, but they have not offered awards to any of our 1983-84 nominees so far.

Most of the Commonwealth Scholars who return home make great contributions to our country. The majority became lecturers at our local universities, while others venture into research projects for the Government and private firms. We advertise all our Commonwealth Scholarship offers. Many applicants are attracted. The short-listed candidates are interviewed and those who qualify are recommended and then nominated. Names are forwarded before 31 December of every year.

KIRIBATI

There is no change in the administration of the Plan from the 1984 position. Kiribati does not institute such awards simply because it has not got the funds nor a university except for the University of the South Pacific (Fiji), of which Kiribati is a supporting member.

So far Kiribati has not benefited from the awards as not one candidate has been accepted in the past. As a nominating agency the awards are seen as highly competitive, restricting the chances of our graduates, very few of whom possess the required class or grades in their first degree. A more flexible attitude in considering entry requirements will be more ideal and no doubt beneficial to Kiribati.

LESOTHO

No report has been received.

MALAWI

There is nothing specially worth reporting on the working of the C.S.F.P. between 1 April 1984 and 31 March 1985. So far the Cyprus Conference discussions have had no impact on the operation of the C.S.F.P. on Malawi.

MALAYSIA

No report has been received.

MALDIVES

No report has been received.

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 1984 to 31 March 1985 nine new scholarships were awarded under this Plan as follows: Mr Christopher Bezzina to read for a master's degree in education in New Zealand; Mr George Camenzuli to read for an M.B.A. in management studies in Canada; Mr Albert J Camilleri to do research in computer science in the United Kingdom; Dr Noel Fabri to read for an LL.M. in mineral and petroleum law in Australia; Mr Victor Martinelli to read for a M.Ed. in educational psychology in Australia; Mr Lawrence Mintoff to read for a diploma and M.Sc. in concrete structures in the United Kingdom; Mr Ronald Sultana to read for an M.Ed. in counselling and guidance in New Zealand; Mr Edward Warrington to read for an M.A. in public administration in Canada; Mr Raymond Zammit to read for a diploma in educational studies (guidance and counselling) in Australia.

During the same period nine persons were also on scholarship. These were: Mr Anthony Bailey to read for the M.Eng. in engineering science in Canada; Miss Loraine Borg to read for the M.Ed. in applied psychology in Canada; Mr Dion Buhagiar to read for the M.Sc. in structural steel design in the United Kingdom; Dr Aldo Chircop to read for the LL.M. in maritime law in Canada; Mr Albert Farrugia to read for a higher degree in chemistry in the United Kingdom; Mr P F Boffa to read for a diploma/degree in guidance and counselling in New Zealand; Mr Michael Fenech to read for a Ph.D. in genetics in Australia; Mr Edwin Mintoff to read for the M.Phil. in architecture in the United Kingdom; Miss Adelina L Sciriha to read for an M.A. in linguistics in Canada.

Under the Plan Malta offers one scholarship to enable a scholar from a country in the Commonwealth to undergo studies at the University of Malta. During the period 1 April 1984 to 31 March 1985 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. As a general rule they are subsequently engaged in work related to their specialisation in both the public and private sectors.

Publicity for these awards is given through press releases and other means of communication, i.e. radio, television and the local relay systems.

MAURITIUS

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in Mauritius is processed, as in the past, by the Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture. There has been no change in the procedure of selection and nomination of the candidates. It is quite encouraging to note that many applications from the public are received when scholarships from Commonwealth countries are publicly advertised through the various mass media. Mauritius is still a nominating agency and the present trend is to emphasise the following main fields of study: engineering, sciences, medical sciences and agriculture.

Leave of absence is usually given to government employees nominated for the scholarships. 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 could also be given to training for professional and technical qualifications.

MONTSERRAT

There have been no changes in the operation of the C.S.F.P. for the period under review.

Members of the Scholarship Committee now are: (i) Permanent Secretary, Administration (Chairman); (ii) Permanent Secretary, Development; (iii) Permanent Secretary, Chief Minister's Office; (iv) Permanent Secretary, Education, Health and Community Services; (v) Chief Training Officer; (vi) Resident Tutor, Extra Mural studies, University of the West Indies; (vii) Principal Assistant Secretary (Finance); (viii) Representative from the Montserrat Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

During this period Mr Richard Ryan was admitted to the University College, London to complete his training in surveying. Four new applications have been made.

NAURU

Nauru has not so far instituted an award under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, nor did it participate or compete for any such awards instituted by other Commonwealth countries.

NEW ZEALAND

For New Zealand it was another successful year. We had all but one of the scholars who had been offered scholarships arrive. We produced a glossy information brochure and this seems to be having a positive impact on enquires about the awards.

We have a problem in one area, India, which very kindly invites us to send nominations. However, this invitation always arrives after the meeting we hold in December. We really need to receive this by July in order that we can advertise it.

NIGERIA

In the past it was the policy of the Federal Republic of Nigeria to institute 15 C.S.F.P. awards annually, but this year there is an intention to raise the number of the awards to 22 beginning with 1985-86 session. The Secretariat remains the same.

Scholars of very high academic standard who will not be more than 35 years old when they resume their studies are always considered if they apply through their home government. The response to our call for nominations has slightly improved but is not encouraging enough. We still appeal for better publicity of our awards and we look forward to a total utilisation of the awards when they are given. For the year under report we received only three nominations, gave three awards which are now being utilised. The two awards deferred since last session have now been rejected. We wish to suggest that if an award is deferred or rejected notification should be given in good time.

As a nominating country, the problem remains the same, too many qualified candidates competing for a few awards. Some candidates are disappointed over their repeated high performances which have yielded them no fruitful end. It is however very much appreciated that those who enjoy the awards do come back home to contribute to the process of the country. They serve as trainers in institutions of higher learning and in various sections of the public service.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

No report has been received.

ST. CHRISTOPHER NEVIS

No report has been received.

ST. HELENA

St. Helena is a grant-aided territory. There is no education at tertiary level and no Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded for study on the island. However this year Canada has agreed to take students for first degree courses and we are exploring the possibility of taking up this offer.

Awards for scholarships are offered through O.D.A. in Britain for about 18 places a year. The number was increased by five last year because of a project to upgrade education on the island.

ST. LUCIA

During the past year the Commonwealth Scholarship Plan worked as well as in previous years. It had continued to be administered in Saint Lucia by the training Division. The Division sought to observe all deadlines.

None of the beneficiaries of the programme have returned so far from their training. But this fact does not leave any doubt that the programme is beneficial and relevant. These two characteristics are considered when making selections.

ST. VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continues to allow for nationals of this country to pursue postgraduate studies in priority areas. During the period under review two trainees completed studies and returned to their substantive posts better qualified to meet the demands of the job. A third candidate who attended a two-year course of study is due back in June/July 1985. One person presently pursuing training in dermatology will on completion of training be the only specialist in the state with this qualification.

There was an increase in the number of nominations requested by some awarding countries but we were unable to make maximum use of this increase in view of the stipulated age limits and the fact that there is still a shortfall in the number of applications from suitably qualified persons. The fact that some countries demand at least upper second passes acts as a deterrent to some interested persons. Further the competitive nature of awards offered by some countries as against the firm offers from others makes such awards less attractive to persons interested in pursuing studies at postgraduate level.

Commonwealth Scholars continue to comment favourably on their courses of study and other logistic arrangements made to accommodate them in the awarding country.

SEYCHELLES

The award of scholarships overseas is centralised and the Ministry of Education and Information, P O Box 48, Victoria, Mahe, Seychelles is the agency. The public service/public sector's training needs are communicated to the Ministry of Education and Information by the Directorate of Manpower Development. Based on the manpower training needs of the country, pre-service and in-service candidates are selected. Any member of the public who thinks that he may qualify for a scholarship can certainly apply to the Ministry. If he/she meets the requirements, i.e. training is relevant to the country's need and the candidate is found to have the academic aptitude for university training, he/she will be considered. In the case of an in-service candidate, selection is made by the Principal Secretary, Personnel and Management

Division, President's Office in close consultation with the Principal Secretary of the Ministry where the officer is currently employed.

Concerning Commonwealth Scholarships, the training offered is normally suitable to our needs. However, with the exception of Canada and U.K. which offer training at both postgraduate and undergraduate levels, countries offer training at postgraduate level. Seychelles, a small country without a university and with a shortage of highly trained manpower, does not have, in most cases, candidates for postgraduate training. However, to the small number of candidates we have, awards have been granted only in respect of training tenable in U.K., Canada and Australia. New Zealand awards are too rigid, insisting on candidates with exceptional academic ability. Having applied for scholarships of this nature for a few occasions without success, it is therefore not encouraging to continue to respond positively to such requests. Australian awards serve our purpose and truly take into consideration our needs.

Generally Commonwealth Scholarships help use to develop our manpower requirements but our main remark is that scholarships offered are not enough and sometimes insufficient information is given on the type of training available. Seychelles would be pleased to be requested to submit more applications particularly in respect of training courses tenable in Canada, U.K., New Zealand and Australia.

SIERRA LEONE

In 1982-83 academic year Sierra Leone instituted her first awards i.e. two awards under the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan. Two candidates from the U.K. were awarded scholarships and only one took up the award. The other asked for his award to be deferred to the 1984-85 academic year but never took up the award. In 1984-85 academic year Sierra Leone instituted three awards (Sierra Leone 1985), an increase of one on the awards for the 1982-83 academic year. The emoluments and conditions of award were revised recently (see Appendix II). Apart from this there has been no change in the machinery set up for the administration of the Plan.

As a nominating country Sierra Leone benefits from other Commonwealth countries like the U.K., Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago and Nigeria. All candidates who benefit from these awards return home to the jobs in which they are subsequently promoted or to other higher jobs.

SINGAPORE

There has been no change in the administration of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan in our country. We are grateful for the four awards which were eventually granted to Singapore. These awards were used mainly in the area of Chinese language testing, meteorology study, construction management and industrial psychology.

Our returned scholars have found the courses beneficial and are taking on higher responsibilities and contributing effectively to their respective place of employment.

SOLOMON ISLANDS

No report has been received.

SRI LANKA

No statement has been received for this summary.

SWAZILAND

In was only last year (1984) that we have seen the progression of the Plan. Two of our candidates were accepted by Canada for the first time and started their degree courses in September 1984. We are also happy to report that two others have been accepted by Australia and started their degree courses in March 1985. This was the first and second time for Swaziland to benefit from the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan.

TANZANIA

No report has been received.

TONGA

The machinery set up for the administration of the Plan in Tonga remains unchanged. the Ministry of Education is still the main administration body for C.S.F.P. Scholarships are advertised publicly before allocation of the sets of awards from the awarding countries. Personal qualification and the availability of the field needed by the country are considered in the distribution of awards for nomination purposes.

It is encouraging to read the twenty-third Annual Report for the period ending 31 March 1983. At present there is only one award holder in the United Kingdom, none in India and Canada but two in Australia. We have nominated three candidates to India this year and two to the United Kingdom, one to Canada and two to Cyprus. It is exciting to operate the Cyprus exam test for students applying for the Cyprus award.

The Kingdom of Tonga looks forward to placing more students in the C.S.F.P. Plan in future. The operation of the system has been satisfying overall.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

The Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan continued to work smoothly in Trinidad and Tobago between 1 April 1984 and 31 March 1985. 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 selected 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.

TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS

No report has been received.

TUVALU

The Plan has been in operation in Tuvalu for a number of years now. This year the running and operation of the Plan is by the Ministry of Social Services through its Scholarship Officer. There has been little change in the machinery of operation of the Plan since last year. When the Ministry of Social Services receive invitations from awarding countries, it publicises the awards over Radio Tuvalu and through our weekly paper, calling for applications. On receiving the applications from the members of the public, the applications will be submitted to the Scholarships Committee for consideration. The Committee would select a candidate who would then be nominated by the Tuvalu Government.

The Plan itself in its years of operation in Tuvalu has never been successful. Although the number of award has been increased it had little effect of benefit to Tuvalu, due to the difficulty of getting candidates with the right qualification. There is an increasing number of graduates in Tuvalu recently. With this increase may be in the years to come, the Plan might become more beneficial to Tuvalu.

UGANDA

No report has been received.

VANUATU

No report had been received.

WESTERN SAMOA

As with the previous years the Staff Training and Scholarships' Committee, comprising of the Prime Minister as the Chairman, several Cabinet Ministers and heads of department, continues to be the executing agency for the Plan in Western Samoa.

Offers of awards we have been fortunate to receive have come from United Kingdom, Canada, Hong Kong, Trinidad and Tobago, New Zealand, Cyprus and Jamaica. There has been a slight increase in the number of candidates accepted, due to the fact that there is a number of first degree holders who

have now returned home from studies abroad to work in both the public service and private sector. These graduates were sponsored by various aid donors of the Western Samoan Government.

According to reports from our Public Service Commission on returning C.S.F.P. candidates, the postgraduate training received in every case has been relevant, and to a great extent, has been credited with candidates' promotion to more senior positions in the service.

ZAMBIA

No report has been received.

ZIMBABWE

No report has been received.