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- 3.3 In the light of the material collected through the questionnaire and additional information, Commonwealth countries are grouped in Annex 4 in terms of their status in pharmaceutical production as classified by UNIDO⁽¹¹⁾.
- 3.4 In response to Part B, 23 production units from 13 countries have expressed the need for assistance from the Commonwealth Secretariat and other international organisations in the following fields:
- (a) technical aid in production (formulation of tablets and capsules), quality control (laboratories and methods), factory maintenance and good manufacturing practices;
 - (b) provision of technical personnel and training;
 - (c) new product development and techniques e.g. film coating of tablets and production of injectables;
 - (d) financial aid in expansion of existing units and setting up of new units;
 - (e) import of raw materials and equipment;
 - (f) export promotion techniques; and
 - (g) collaboration with multinational companies.

4. Analysis of Economic and Health-Related Indicators

- 4.1 The total population of all the Commonwealth countries was estimated to be about 1,136 million, of which the 12 low income countries accounted for about 900 million with an average GNP of about US\$252 per head. The four industrialised countries with a population of about 100 million had an average GNP of about US\$10,625 per head, almost 40 times that of the low income countries.
- 4.2 Health expenditure per head by Central Governments of the low income group is about US\$1.10, as against the similar

expenditure in the industrialised countries of about US\$375.50 per head. The average life expectancy in the former is 51 years (lowest 38 years) against a steady 74 years in the latter. The average population covered by one physician is about 4,200 in the low income countries, whereas one physician covers 600 persons in the developed countries.

4.3 A similar analysis on health expenditure as above for the lower and upper middle income groups has not been attempted due to great divergence in per head figures among countries of the same income group. The small population island countries show little agreement in per head health expenditure or other health-related indicators amongst themselves. In the lower middle income group, the health expenditure per head ranges from US\$1.50 to US\$75.00. When correlated with GNP per head, the health expenditure for all income groups shows a low of 0.2 to a maximum of 9.3 per cent, compared with 1.6 to 5.9 per cent in the industrialised countries.

4.4 It is difficult to draw precise conclusions from the above data, except in general terms. The figures for health expenditure relate to Central Government budgets in this study. In small countries, the Central expenditure is in fact the total expenditure, but in countries of larger area and population e.g. India, Bangladesh, Nigeria etc, the figure for Government health expenditure can be substantially enhanced by taking into consideration the expenditure provided for and incurred by the provincial and local governments and authorities.

5. Analysis of Pharmaceutical Data

5.1 The total number of pharmacists in the Commonwealth countries is estimated to be about 251,572 out of which 180,000 are in India and the industrialised countries have 63,511. The average population per pharmacist is estimated as follows:

Low Income Countries	95,000
Lower Middle Income Countries	32,400
Upper Middle Income Countries	8,700
Industrialised Countries	4,000

Twenty out of the 49 Commonwealth countries do not have any pharmaceutical educational institutions. On a regional basis, Asia has 124, of which 116 are in India. The number of schools of pharmacy in Africa are 19, in the Caribbean 7, in the Pacific 1 (Papua New Guinea) and in the industrialised countries 34.

5.2 It is difficult to give a meaningful analysis of the distribution of pharmacies in the Commonwealth, as the number reported by 42 countries are not based on uniform or standard considerations of professional supervision of the retail outlets. On a random basis, however, the total number of pharmacies in the 42 countries (Bangladesh and Nigeria did not give figures) is estimated to be 214,833 out of which India is