

maximum use of Commonwealth machinery to promote social and economic development, the Conference recommends that Commonwealth Heads of Government be invited to consider:

- (a) issuing a declaration giving encouragement and continued support to the work of NGOs;
- (b) making possible at an early date the broadening of the scope - with the necessary increased income - of the Commonwealth Foundation to enable it to promote the development and to support the work of, not only the professional associations, but other NGOs which have a contribution to make to Commonwealth objectives;
- (c) inviting the Commonwealth Secretary-General to promote collaboration with NGOs in functional activities related to the work of the Secretariat, especially in the areas of economic and social development, using C.F.T.C. funds as appropriate;
- (d) inviting the Commonwealth Secretary-General to make proposals for developing more fruitful consultative relationships between the Secretariat and Commonwealth NGOs;
- (e) making a fresh assessment of the Commonwealth's information, cultural and education programmes. In this regard, we suggest that the Secretariat should assemble relevant background papers - covering the official and unofficial Commonwealth - for consideration in detail by the senior officials' committee that meets concurrently with the HGM;
- (f) the suggestion that some 2% to 3% of official development assistance resources be directed through multi-lateral Commonwealth channels.

11. It is hoped that the Commonwealth Secretary-General will support another meeting of NGOs during 1978 so that further impetus can be given to the important preliminary deliberations, and the recommendations made, at Dalhousie.

The Dalhousie Conference
29 October 1976