

## Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting

**H**eads of government of 49 Commonwealth states met in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, last October to review world political and economic issues. At the conclusion of their meeting a series of documents was issued, including the Langkawi Declaration on the Environment, the Kuala Lumpur Statement on Southern Africa, and a 33-page communiqué which outlined broad agreement on many topics from Third World debt to super-power relations and the fate of Hong Kong.

Media attention focused on the Kuala Lumpur Statement on Southern Africa, subtitled "The Way Ahead," which drew conclusions on a situation in flux. The statement reflects a broad consensus that there are signals from Pretoria that it may be prepared to move towards negotiation at a time when the anti-apartheid opposition, the Mass Democratic Movement, has also taken several concrete steps to move towards negotiations. The statement also included agreement that now is not the time to relax sanctions. With the exception of Britain, the heads of government agreed that some measures, in particular in the financial area and the arms embargo, still required tightening.

The Commonwealth Committee of Foreign Ministers, created at the previous Commonwealth Summit in Van-

couver and chaired by External Affairs Minister Joe Clark, had its mandate renewed. It was agreed that the committee would next meet in April 1990 to review progress in Southern Africa.

While Britain continued to object to economic sanctions against South Africa, Prime Minister Brian Mulroney concluded that "the unanimity here has been impressive" and that all of Canada's objectives had been achieved. In all areas of its agenda, the Commonwealth has moved forward. The message the Commonwealth sent to South Africa was a clear and unanimous condemnation of apartheid and the desire of the Commonwealth to see a negotiated and peaceful settlement in South Africa.

**Prime Minister Brian Mulroney addressing the Commonwealth Heads of Government.**



## New Governor General Announced

**L**ast October, the Honourable Ramon John Hnatyshyn was appointed Governor General of Canada. The Saskatchewan-born lawyer will serve in succession to the Right Honourable Jeanne Sauvé and will assume office in mid-January 1990.

First elected to the House of Commons in 1974, Hnatyshyn served for 14 years as the representative of Saskatoon West, including five years as a Minister of the Crown. He held portfolios of Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, Minister of State for Science and Technology, Government House Leader, President of the Queens' Privy Council for Canada, Minister of Justice, and Attorney General for Canada.



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**The Honourable Ramon Hnatyshyn: Canada's new Governor General.**

Bill McCarthy/PMO