



With the Statute of Westminster in 1931, the British Empire evolved into the British Commonwealth and, after World War II, into the modern Commonwealth of Nations or more simply, the Commonwealth. As these changes evolved, member countries, whether monarchies like Malaysia or republics like India, agreed that the Queen should be the symbol and Head of the Commonwealth. Heads of Government reaffirmed this by the decision that their 1977 meeting, which normally would have rotated to some other capital, should be held in London when the Queen celebrated her Silver Jubilee. More recently, the Heads of Government held their 1979 meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, and the Queen, as Head of the Commonwealth, journeyed to Lusaka to meet the Heads of Government at their biennial conference.