

its members. It has made a point of encouraging mutual self-help among its developing members, with half of its experts on assignment to developing countries coming from other Third World countries themselves. The CFTC has quickly built up a reputation for speed of response, flexibility and quality. It also makes a point of accommodating the development requests of small nations, which are often unable to obtain the attention and assistance of the major international agencies. It is, finally, a most efficient development-assistance mechanism; its administrative overhead runs at about 12 per cent, compared to an average of 30 per cent or more for other multilateral aid agencies. Arnold Smith has said of the CFTC:

It shows what scope there is for down-to-earth, practical, mutual help in a group such as the Commonwealth. In my judgment, continued rapid expansion would make good sense, developmentally and in terms of basic political strategy. I have always believed that the health of the Commonwealth, and therefore its value to its members, depends on the extent to which it is constructively used.

*Canadian involvement in the Commonwealth
Caribbean: training and facilities at Piarco
International Airport in Trinidad.*

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