

THE DALHOUSIE CONFERENCE: SUMMARY
OF CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Dalhousie Conference on the Commonwealth and Non-Governmental Organisations (25-29 October 1976) was attended by 86 participants from 18 countries of the Commonwealth.
2. Twelve working papers were presented and discussed in plenary session, and then considered in three commissions dealing with:
 - (a) Closer co-operation within the unofficial Commonwealth;
 - (b) The machinery for a continuing dialogue between the official and the unofficial Commonwealth; and
 - (c) Increasing public understanding of the Commonwealth.
3. The full reports of the three Commissions will be distributed with a final summary to be completed by Dalhousie at the end of the conference. The Report of the commission on increasing public understanding includes an attachment proposing a number of practical steps to assist with information and education. Some of those relating to education are intended to be referred to the next meeting of Commonwealth Education Ministers.
4. The unofficial Commonwealth, which may be broadly regarded as the totality of non-governmental relations among the peoples of the Commonwealth, has developed pragmatically, in response to the need for co-operative action, in six main areas:
 - (a) in the professions with the support of the Commonwealth Foundation;
 - (b) development;
 - (c) public information, and education;
 - (d) parliamentary government;
 - (e) the arts;
 - (f) sport.