

meetings of both "La Francophonie" and the Commonwealth and, on these occasions, many African leaders will visit Canada to represent their countries.

### **The Francophone Summit**

The second Summit of Heads of State and Heads of Government of Countries Using French as a Common Language will meet in Canada on September 2, 3 and 4, 1987. The Summit will take place in Quebec City, the bastion of French life in America.

An organizing committee has been created to coordinate the preparations and events for the Quebec City Summit. The Committee is chaired by the federal government; Quebec and New Brunswick are also involved.

One of the greatest assets possessed by the members of the international Francophone community is their attitude of cooperation. To ensure that the concerns and purposes of each party are considered at the Quebec Summit, an international Committee of "Sherpas," or personal representatives of the Heads of State and Government, has been set up. Mr. Lucien Bouchard, the Canadian Ambassador to France, is Chairman of the Committee in the capacity of personal representative of Prime Minister Mulroney. The purpose of this group is to determine the topics for submission to the Heads of State and Government when they meet in Quebec City.

### **The Commonwealth Summit**

The next Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting will be held in Vancouver in October, 1987. The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth, will visit Canada to formally open the meeting.

Forty-nine independent countries are members of the Commonwealth. They amount to a quarter of the world's nations and people. The tradition has evolved of holding these Commonwealth gatherings every second year.

The most distinctive characteristic of the Heads of Government Meeting is its informality. Special conventions and procedures have been developed to facilitate this and the meetings are unrivaled as a setting for free discussions among leaders of a large and varied group of countries. The proceedings are held in private without notetakers. At