

Heads of Government also agreed that the **International Bill of Human Rights** is the cornerstone of international human rights, and member countries are to ensure that the trend toward greater respect for these rights continues. The Commonwealth recognizes that non-governmental organizations have an important role to play in monitoring human rights abuses.

In concluding the Harare meeting, the Heads of Government declared that "in reaffirming the principles of the Commonwealth and in committing ourselves to new policies and action, we

express our **determination to renew and enhance the value of the Commonwealth** as an institution which can and should strengthen and enrich the lives not only of its own members and their peoples but also of the wider community of peoples of which they are a part." (Emphasis added.)

The Commonwealth Secretariat is in the process of reforming its organization and operation. This reform will heighten its ability to respond to the objectives outlined in the Harare Declaration in a rapidly changing world.