

. consequently, accepted that it must be a major objective to bring about a cessation of hostilities and an end to sanctions as part of the process of implementation of a lasting settlement."

Mr. Clark, in a news conference, said the Zimbabwe-Rhodesian agreement was "a very significant step..., but there are other steps to come. My own estimate is that the steps we have taken here will prove to be fruitful...we are moving now towards a resolution of a very difficult problem".

### Canada offers to help

Canadian sanctions against Zimbabwe-Rhodesia would not be lifted, "before a new regime has been well established there", said the Prime Minister. Mr. Clark added that Canada would be willing to participate in a resettlement fund for Rhodesia whites who wished to leave the country rather than accept the new arrangements. The idea of a fund was mentioned by Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald, who accompanied the Prime Minister to the meeting, said it was possible Canada might provide logistical support and electoral expertise should the new elections envisaged in the plan materialize. "If we were asked, it would be because of our expertise in running elections," the Minister said.

The Commonwealth leaders also discussed the situation in Namibia, but, said Mr. Clark they felt it was wiser not to deal further with the question of independence for that territory fearing that further debate might upset the Commonwealth accord on the future of Zimbabwe-Rhodesia.

### Problem of aid

Canada resisted calls for substantial increases in Commonwealth technical aid, the Prime Minister said at a news conference at the close of the meeting. Mr. Clark said there was some pressure to expand the \$30-million Commonwealth fund for technical co-operation. He said Canada resisted these proposals on the grounds that Canadian funds constituted a disproportionate share, about 33 per cent compared to Britain's 36 per cent, with the other members contributing 31 per cent.

"We have been concerned for some time about the fact that the support of the fund was moving more and more quickly towards two countries, Canada and Great Britain," said the Prime Minister, "and we thought it was going to be important that while we indicate that we are very enthusiastic about the performance and the possibility of the fund we are not enthusiastic about carrying it exclusively...."

Mr. Clark said he believed, "there will be a marked increase in the over-all contribution by member countries to the fund. That will not likely yield an increase in Canadian participation in the fiscal years for which commitments have been given. But depending upon the base of support for the fund we would expect to look favourably upon increasing our support in years to come".

The Heads of Government agreed to the establishment of an industrial development unit to promote industrialization in developing countries. The unit will be financed by £5 million in its initial three-year period. Urged by Prime Minister Clark, among others, the Commonwealth leaders also decided to commission a

study into the question of economic growth.

### Statement on racism

The final *communiqué* also included a declaration on racism which stated:

"We reject as inhuman and intolerable all policies based in perpetuated *apartheid*, racial segregation or other policies based on theories that racial groups are or may be inherently superior or inferior."

Mr. Clark said "the principal motivation of the declaration on racism was to incorporate in one statement principles that are shared in the Commonwealth and that have been adhered to by the Commonwealth members in other forums at other times. But it was felt useful at this particular time, meeting on this continent, to consolidate that declaration in an informal statement".

In a final press conference before he travelled to Tanzania for talks with President Nyerere, the Prime Minister summed up Canada's role in the conference. "I think that we were able to play a useful role, a useful moderating role, in bringing other participants in the conference towards agreement," Mr. Clark said.

### The first visit to Africa by a Canadian Prime Minister

Prime Minister Joe Clark returned home August 11 from Africa — the first official visit to that continent by a Canadian prime minister. The 16-day trip took the Prime Minister to the four African countries of Cameroun, Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya. On his way home, Mr. Clark visited Canadian troops stationed in Lahr, West Germany.

Mr. Clark was accompanied by his wife Maureen McTeer, Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald, Senator Martial Asselin, Minister responsible for the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and other government officials.

The primary reason for the Prime Minister's visit to Africa was to attend the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, but Mr. Clark said he was visiting the other three countries because he "wanted to see some of the projects in which Canada has been involved and have the opportunity to discuss with Heads of Government in those countries the specific effect of

### The Commonwealth at a glance

The Commonwealth consists of 41 member states, two of which are special members and do not participate at Heads of Government meetings. Fourteen are African nations, five Asian and three European; nine, including Canada, are from the Americas, eight from the Pacific and two from the Australias. Twenty of them have populations of less than one million, while its largest member nation, India, has a population of 604 million.

The Lusaka conference was the twenty-first such meeting since the practice of these biennial meetings began in 1944. The Heads of Government meeting is the senior of several levels of Commonwealth conferences. These meetings are private and confidential gatherings of Commonwealth leaders for an informal exchange of views. Five Heads of Government meetings have taken place during this decade. This year's meeting was the second held in Africa. The locations and dates of the previous meetings were: Singapore (1971), Ottawa (1973), Kingston (1975) and London (1977).