

Conclusion and recommendations

5. They believe that these relationships can be developed further largely within existing programmes, to produce more cost-effective results. They therefore suggest that Commonwealth Heads of Government should be invited to consider:

- (1) issuing a declaration expressing:
 - (a) the recognition of the present and potential contribution of the NGOs to the elimination of poverty and to the development and understanding of the Commonwealth;
 - (b) their intention of giving continued encouragement and support for their work;
- (2) inviting the Commonwealth Secretary-General to promote collaboration with NGOs in functional activities related to the work of the Secretariat - especially in the areas of economic and social development, using C.F.T.C. funds as appropriate for these purposes,; to the extent that these funds could be augmented the collaboration would be more effective;
- (3) inviting the Commonwealth Secretary-General to make proposals for developing more fruitful consultative relationships between the Secretariat and Commonwealth NGOs;
- (4) making possible the expansion of the scope - and as necessary the resources - of the Commonwealth Foundation to enable it to promote the development and to support the work, not only of the Professional Associations, but of other appropriate NGOs, which have a contribution to make to Commonwealth programmes;
- (5) initiating and supporting a further meeting of NGOs during the course of 1978 to carry forward the work of the Dalhousie Conference, with particular reference to recommendations (2), (3), and (4) above.

Bala Pillay
Chairman

28 October 1976.