

The Canadian Government, together with the rest of the Commonwealth, finds any regime representing a racial minority to be unacceptable as a partner in the Commonwealth, or in the world at large. This is why the Canadian Government, with the support of the Canadian Parliament, has been among the foremost in the application of sanctions against the illegal regime.

I have endeavoured to touch briefly on some of the major issues facing Canada and the Commonwealth in the world today.

In the midst of rapid change, the established and traditional relations among nations have a special value. But it would be a serious mistake to allow tradition to blind us to present realities, for the importance of traditional relations rests not on what they once represented but on the ways in which they can be made to serve our present and future needs.

I am convinced that the Commonwealth, so rich in tradition, must be seen in this light. The Commonwealth in its present form, far from being out of date, has a very vital role to play in our modern world, by bringing many nations, each with its own distinctive personality, closer together. We must ensure that no opportunity to have it play this role, for which it is uniquely well-suited, is overlooked.

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