

South Africa to assist the Committee in addressing human resources issues as an integral part of the Commonwealth's efforts to support South Africa's transition to a successful and stable non-racial democracy. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to establish the Expert Group and facilitate its work.

14. The imminent return to South Africa of many thousands of refugees following the unbanning of the political parties will require a substantial infusion of financial resources to meet the cost of resettlement. In the light of this new situation, the Committee called on all Commonwealth governments and the wider international community to use appropriate channels for contributing financially and in kind to the resettlement of the returnees. In this respect the Committee welcomed the announcement by Australia this week that it would respond to ANC requests by making available A\$15 million over the next three years for resettlement, training and related purposes.

Process of Consultation

15. The Committee noted the uncertainty of future developments and stressed the importance of ensuring that the views of those most directly involved are taken into account in a timely fashion into future Commonwealth responses. The Committee requested the Secretary-General to maintain close contact with all the parties concerned. Ministers also mandated the Chairman to convene a special meeting of this Committee at any point it was deemed necessary and helpful.

Special Commonwealth Fund for Mozambique

16. The Committee welcomed the Secretary-General's Report on the Special Commonwealth Fund for Mozambique and expressed satisfaction that further contributions and pledges from Australia, Britain, Canada, Malaysia, Nigeria and Sierra Leone will permit a build-up of activities in 1990 and 1991. Thereafter additional resources will be required. The Committee urged Commonwealth governments to contribute additional resources to maintain the Fund's activities over a full five years.

Other items

17. The Committee took note, with appreciation, of the substantial progress that has been made in implementing other elements of the Okanagan Programme of Action; notably the Commonwealth Strategy for Countering South African Propaganda and Censorship and the Plan of Action for the Promotion of Trade and Investment in Southern Africa.