

Developing members of the Commonwealth continued to receive considerable sums of Canadian assistance during 1971. Canada's total allocated contribution under the Colombo Plan from its inception in 1951 to March 1971 was approximately \$1,371 million. Canadian allocations to Commonwealth countries in Africa through the Special Commonwealth Africa Assistance Plan amounted to more than \$179 million for the period from 1960 to March 1971, and approximately \$128 million was allocated to Commonwealth Caribbean countries from 1958 to March 1971.

Canada is an active participant in the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, which, since 1969, has been administered in this country by the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada. Canada also supports the training and provision of teachers for service in Commonwealth countries and assists in plans for co-operation in technical education. In January 1971, about 350 Canadian educators were serving under contract with the Canadian International Development Agency in the developing countries of the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation was formally established on April 1, 1971, with a Canadian, Mr. George Kidd, as its first Managing Director. The Fund represents the multilateralization and extension of the original, quasi-bilateral Commonwealth Program for Technical Co-operation. Canada has offered to contribute annually the lesser of 40 per cent of total financial contributions or \$350,000, in the initial phase.

(More detailed information on Canadian aid to Commonwealth countries is available in the current annual report of the Canadian International Development Agency.)

#### Francophone Institutions Division

This Division is responsible for all aspects of Canada's participation in La Francophonie, the world-wide cultural community of more than 30 countries where French is spoken. The Division administers Canada's multilateral relations with the other members of the community, concentrating on intergovernmental relations but also lending occasional support to non-governmental French-language organizations active internationally.

#### Intergovernmental Relations

The Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation, founded in March 1970 in Niamey, Niger, provides a focal point for all international French-language organizations. Its purpose is to foster co-operation among countries that are partly or entirely French-speaking in educational, cultural, scientific and technical matters. Canada is a founding member, and the Division has been very active on this country's behalf in the institutions, programs and activities of the Agency, co-ordinating the presentation of Canada's position at meetings of the Programs Committee, the Executive and the General Conference, and generally ensuring a full and balanced participation by Canada in Agency activities.