

the rich countries." For a start, he said, the 1998 Games should be held in a developing country. Hosting assistance will help make that possible.

Contributions in services can be as important as direct financing in making it possible for developing countries to host the Commonwealth Games. Countries which have hosted major Games successfully, might be willing to share their expertise with countries about to host. A hosting training programme could be established which involves allowing games organizers to gain hosting experience by participating in the organization of other Games. Other contributions might include assistance in host broadcasting and communications, protocol, accreditation, transportation, venue management and construction, the provision of computer software for data resources, accounting and project management and the provision of expertise in marketing and promotion.

There are many questions concerning hosting assistance which require further discussion. Is hosting assistance the critical factor in bringing the Games to developing countries? What kinds of assistance are most needed? What form should this assistance take? Should the amount of assistance be fixed at a certain level or should it be evaluated on a case-by-case basis? Advice and guidance on these and other aspects of the proposal are necessary before the final report is prepared.

As a basis for discussion, Canada proposes that the Commonwealth:

- (i) Make hosting assistance in the form of services and direct funding available to developing countries which are awarded the Commonwealth Games;
- (ii) Specifically commit itself to taking all reasonable steps to encourage the Commonwealth Games Federation to allocate the 1998 Games to a developing country;
- (iii) Recommend that the Commonwealth Games Federation consider means of encouraging developing countries to apply for the Commonwealth Games more often. This might be extended to include