

Here in Canberra we will consider the final report of the experts on the application and impact of sanctions. These experts are independent of our respective governments and their conclusions and recommendations reflect their own views. They have provided us with a far-reaching and thought-provoking document which will be a useful contribution to the sanctions debate.

To counter growing censorship and propaganda, a detailed strategy was prepared by Canada and adopted by a Commonwealth Working Party. Trying to get out the news in South Africa takes courage and ingenuity. Apart from our practical assistance, those in the alternative press, have been strengthened by our moral support and involvement.

In Harare, we were witness to the effects of continuing South African destabilization. The enormity of the damage has been well documented by the independent experts whose interim report was released in Harare. We look forward to reviewing their final report at this meeting. We can, I believe, take some hope from the Angolan cease-fire and the African-brokered initiative to negotiate lasting peace and reconciliation, and we will wish to encourage similar efforts on Mozambique.

In response to the situation South Africa's neighbours are facing, the CFM has pledged economic and security assistance, particularly to Mozambique, where destabilization's legacy has been a conflict of brutality and unrelenting misery. Several projects under the Mozambique Fund have already been implemented. For Canada's part, we have recently announced substantial increases in the support we will be providing to Front Line States through our Military Training Assistance Program.

We are helping the victims of apartheid -- for example, those blacks who receive only one-fifth the spending on education as do whites, and those whose segregated, overcrowded and underfunded education handicaps even the most able. We have helped establish a Commonwealth-wide NGO network for advanced training and education for black South Africans, based on the needs of a post-apartheid society.

The Commonwealth Secretariat and many countries, Zimbabwe in particular, have pitched in to make Archbishop Scott and Lord Chitnis' initiative a very successful program. We look forward to receiving a report of their major consultative meeting this past week-end.