Introduction

1. Commonwealth Heads of Government met in Cyprus from 21-25 October 1993. Of the 47 countries which attended the meeting, 36 were represented by Heads of State or Prime Ministers. The Meeting was chaired by the President of Cyprus, Mr. Glafcos Clerides.

2. Heads of Government transmitted a message of felicitations to the Head of the Commonwealth, Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

3. Heads of Government welcomed with particular pleasure the opportunity of meeting in Cyprus and recorded deep appreciation of the excellent arrangements for the meeting and for the warm welcome and gracious hospitality extended by the Government and people of Cyprus.

Global Trends and Prospects

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4. Heads of Government recalled the view expressed in their Harare Communiqué that the end of the Cold War had provided new opportunities and greatly improved prospects for international peace, security and economic development. They welcomed the growing co-operation among the major powers for easing of global tensions. This offered the promise of a more secure and stable world and scope for more meaningful efforts to redress the chronic problems of poverty, hunger, ignorance, disease and environmental degradation. Heads of Government, however, agreed that at the same time, the high hopes associated with the end of the Cold War had been clouded by the proliferation of a new generation of problems; lasting peace still remained elusive in many parts of the world.

5. Heads of Government reaffirmed their support for the United Nations and other international organisations engaged in the search for global peace, security and social and economic development. They expressed their conviction that full and complete commitment to the principles and purposes of the UN Charter was essential for promoting peace and security. They recognised that the United Nations was now better placed than ever before to fulfil the role envisaged by its founders. Responding to the appeal made by the UN Secretary-General in his An Agenda for Peace, they took the view that the Commonwealth and regional organisations, taking into account relevant provisions of the UN Charter, could play a useful and practical role in support of the efforts of the United Nations to build peace and prosperity for all the peoples of the world.