

1990 will witness a number of such special Commonwealth meetings. In May, the Commonwealth Foreign Ministers Committee on Southern Africa, under the chairmanship of Minister Clark, will convene in Nigeria to discuss recent progress in efforts to end apartheid in South Africa.

On March 15-16, as agreed in Kuala Lumpur last October, high-level officials from member states will meet to begin talks on "The Future of the Commonwealth". These discussions are preparatory to an upcoming meeting on this topic which will be attended by Commonwealth Heads of Government later this year.

Another important Commonwealth event will be held in Ottawa this coming October, when the Commonwealth Committee of Ministers Responsible for Women's Affairs will meet to examine the impact of structural adjustment policies on women. Canada is a leading member of the Expert Group studying the problem. Stated Mr. Clark, "Canadians have a responsibility to ensure that women everywhere can lead full, productive lives in the face of change. Our Commonwealth participation provides us with a unique avenue for encouraging efforts to promote women's rights."