

of co-operation and cultural dialogue sought by la Francophonie as a whole.

The International Association of French-Speaking Parliamentarians (AIPLF) held its tenth General Assembly in Geneva from July 2 to 7, 1979. The Canadian delegation included representatives of all the political parties in the House of Commons. To mark the International Year of the Child, the discussions of the tenth General Assembly were devoted chiefly to the traditional and legal rights of the child.

The World Association of French-speaking Physicians (AMMF), in conjunction with the Medical Society of French Guiana and the French-Speaking West Indies and the Association of French-speaking Physicians of Canada, held a tripartite Congress from October 2 to 7 in Quebec City. The Congress was devoted to study of the phenomenon of aging.

The Association of Partially or Entirely French-language Universities (AUPELF) continued its activities for promotion of co-operation between universities through the organization of symposiums in Poland, Seychelles and Canada. Its activities enabled numerous Canadian professors and academics working in the literary, cultural and medical fields to become better known abroad.

The International Council of the French-language (CILF) held its annual meeting in Quebec City from October 21 to 28, 1979. In connection with this meeting there was a symposium on regional French, scientific co-operation between the French-speaking and Arabic-speaking worlds, and African linguistics.

The Institute of Law of French-speaking Countries meeting in Dakar at its twelfth Congress, devoted the meeting to the study of three themes: the situation of foreigners, the movement of individuals and worker immigration.

The General Assembly of Richelieu International was held in Toronto in September. Representatives of France, Belgium and the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation as well as participants from all regions of Canada attended this annual event.

A delegation of five persons representing the Acadian section attended the tenth Congress of the International Union of French-language Journalists and Press (UIJPLF) held in Ajaccio and Paris from September 29 to October 7, 1979. The main theme of the meeting was "French as a language of work".

THE COMMONWEALTH

Canada remains strongly committed to the Commonwealth and continues to be one of its most active members.

The year 1979 was important for the Commonwealth, which not only continued to enhance its general reputation as a distinctive and effective organization in international

consultations and co-operation, but provided the forum for the breakthrough on the longstanding and potentially explosive issue of Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). Also, the Commonwealth continued to grow; the entry into the Commonwealth of St. Lucia, Kiribati (Gilbert Islands) and St. Vincent brought the total membership to 42 countries of various races, languages, cultures and stages of economic development. With this diverse membership, the Commonwealth reflects the world's major problems and provides a unique forum in which equal and sovereign states sharing certain common ideals consult and co-operate on the basis of consensus.

Canada took part in the major Commonwealth ministerial meetings in 1979: the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Lusaka, Zambia, August 1 to 8; the Commonwealth Finance Ministers Meeting in Valletta, Malta, September 26 and 27; and the Commonwealth Ministerial Meeting on Industrial Co-operation in Bangalore, India, March 5 to 7. Other ministerial and official meetings covered such diverse fields as health and education to youth affairs and assistance to small states. In addition to meetings at the official and ministerial levels, the Commonwealth calendar for 1979 was full for a wide variety of non-governmental meetings and programs. While the highlight of the official Commonwealth year was of course the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting, the twenty-fifth Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference held in Wellington, New Zealand, November 17 to December 2, was one of the important events in the area of non-governmental activities.

The official Commonwealth

The biennial meeting of the Commonwealth Heads of Government took place from August 1 to 8 in Lusaka and was attended by leaders or representatives of 39 member countries. The Canadian delegation was headed by the Prime Minister with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of State for the Canadian International Development Agency also attending. The Heads of Government consulted on a variety of global issues of common interest, including the current political and economic trends, a declaration against racism, human rights, and the North-South dialogue, as well as reviewing the progress of and support for Commonwealth co-operation in a wide variety of functional programs.

The most publicized achievement of the meeting was, of course, the plan to assist the achievement of a lasting settlement and peace in Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe). It was at Lusaka, in 1979, that the important first steps were taken in the process which has led to a free and independent Zimbabwe taking its place in the world community in April 1980. The nine-point plan for peace and self-determination in Zimbabwe and the atmosphere of friendship and co-operation which marked the Lusaka meeting demonstrated once again the unique nature of the Commonwealth and illus-