

The Ceylon Conference is designed primarily to assist developing Commonwealth nations in planning science education, particularly at the secondary school level, so that new laboratories may be built and syllabuses revised to meet present needs, taking into account the extraordinary growth in scientific knowledge and the technological advances achieved in recent years. Recognized authorities from a number of countries both inside and outside the Commonwealth will lead discussions on the aims and methods of science teaching and delegates will hear first-hand accounts of new studies and experiments which are yielding encouraging results.

There is a growing awareness among the newer members of the Commonwealth that a rapid improvement of science education is one of the essentials for speeding up economic development. It is thus significant that these developing countries, in requesting educational assistance from the Canadian Government, have assigned high priority to the provision of specialists in the fields of science and mathematics. Of the 158 Canadian teachers and teacher-trainers currently working abroad under the auspices of the External Aid Office of the Canadian Government, 104 are teachers of science and mathematics.