

development of measures for the prevention and investigation of extra-legal, arbitrary and summary executions.

B. The Commonwealth

39. The Commonwealth is engaging in technical assistance in the development of democratic institutions and human rights. Small pertinent programs exist in the areas of Human Rights, Women in Development, Legal Services, and Information (media development). The Commonwealth Secretariat is enthusiastic about the proposed institution and is interested in exploring possibilities for multilateral projects involving Commonwealth countries, the Secretariat, and a Canadian institution. Since the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Assistance deals primarily with economic and social development, funding for such activities is limited.

C. The Organization of American States (OAS)

40. The OAS system includes the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights; the Inter-American Court of Human Rights; the Inter-American Commission of Women; and the Inter-American Indian Institute. The American Convention on Human Rights entered into force in 1978. The Washington-based secretariats of the Commission on Human Rights, the Commission of Women, and the OAS, engage in a modest element of technical assistance in the area of democratic institutions and human rights. Senior Secretariat officers welcome, and look forward to involvement with, a Canadian institute. The Inter-American Institute of Human Rights, San José, Costa Rica, is an autonomous academic institution. It engages in analysis, education, research and promotion of human rights. Funding is primarily American (AID and Ford Foundation), but it also receives support from Canada (CIDA and IDRC), the Federal Republic of Germany (Naumann Foundation) and Venezuela. The San José Institute, on whose board a Canadian, Mr. Justice Walter Tarnopolsky, serves, would be an excellent contact for a Canadian institution.

D. The Council of Europe, Strasbourg

41. The European system comprises the European Convention of Human Rights, the European Court of Justice and the European Commission of Human Rights. In October 1983, the Council of Europe organized a Conference on Parliamentary Democracy involving twenty-six developed countries. A second conference on the subject will be held in September 1987, to which developed and developing country delegations alike will be invited. The practice of including developing country participation in discussions of this nature was established with the convening of a colloque in Strasbourg in June 1986, involving forty Latin-American and European