

Many of the best legal minds will be enlisted in the government team. In putting forward their detailed view as to how to ensure a truly non-racial democracy, the ANC and others will be at a comparative disadvantage. Successful negotiations will require a greater equality of resources and expertise, and increased dialogue across different constituencies.

The Commonwealth can assist; for our part Canada spent \$1.6 million over the past two years on dialogue-related projects inside South Africa. Events of recent months have made that task more urgent, and this year alone we will spend \$1.8 million, with increased emphasis on projects directly related to negotiations and constitutional options. My Department's chief legal advisor, the former Canadian Ambassador to South Africa, Mr. Ted Lee, has at my request just completed a mission to the region to assess areas where Canada's expertise might be of use.

On the basis of his recommendations, we have already funded meetings between human rights lawyers inside South Africa and the ANC legal team in preparation for talks. We have also given a large grant to the Centre for Applied Legal Studies for conferences targetted on key constitutional issues, and provided two Canadian constitutional experts to assist in a major seminar this month. We are looking at ways of linking up other experts with the Law Reform Commission in South Africa.

Another area in which the assistance of the Commonwealth is vitally important is education, training and work experience for black South Africans. The ultimate success of a non-racial South Africa will depend on the capacity of both blacks and whites to exercise both political and economic power. Economic exploitation lies at the heart of apartheid and, by and large, black South Africans have been shut out of the experience of running industries and businesses. They have also been excluded from the leadership in the public service. In our discussions in Lusaka, Mr. Mandela and I agreed that there was an urgent need for additional programs to provide potential black leaders of industry and public service with practical experience in running large corporations in both the private and public sectors.

The issue of apartheid has always loomed large on the horizon of the Commonwealth. When South Africa left the Commonwealth in 1961, Canadian Prime Minister John Diefenbaker promised there would always be a light in the window for South Africa to return, once apartheid was ended.

That light has never dimmed. Through Gleneagles, through Nassau and the Eminent Persons Group, through the Vancouver and Kuala Lumpur meetings, through Namibia's joining the Commonwealth family, and finally through this Committee's ongoing work, that light has grown ever brighter. We have strengthened that flame, not only as a beacon of hope to South Africans yearning for a non-racial, democratic future, but also because we know that a free South Africa would enrich our family and our world.