



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

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Prime Minister's Oral Statement:  
CHOGM and Visit to New York

/ I enclose a draft oral statement for the Prime Minister's use in the next week. I have shown this to the Foreign Secretary and it incorporates his comments. Supplementaries on CHOGM will follow shortly; those on the New York visit will come on Monday morning.

(P F Ricketts)  
Private Secretary

C D Powell Esq  
PS/No 10

STATEMENT ON COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING,  
NASSAU AND VISIT TO NEW YORK

I will, with permission, Mr Speaker, make a statement on my visits to Nassau for the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting from 16-22 October, and to New York on 23-24 October for the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations. My Rt Hon Friend the Foreign Secretary accompanied me to <sup>Nassau.</sup> /

I have arranged for copies of the communique from the Commonwealth Meeting to be placed in the Library of the House.

We devoted much of our time at that meeting to the problems of South Africa. Heads of Government were unanimous in their abhorrence of apartheid; in their wish to see fundamental peaceful change in South Africa at an early date; and in their determination to find practical ways in which the Commonwealth could help achieve this goal.

My Rt Hon Friend the Foreign Secretary has already given the House an account of the united position we achieved. This is set out in the Commonwealth Accord on Southern Africa. I wish to emphasise three points:

- First, we agreed on the urgent need to initiate a dialogue, across the lines of colour, politics and religion. We placed this firmly in the context of the renunciation of violence by all sides. This is a key point, on which all Commonwealth leaders are now agreed. Dialogue is not likely to make progress in an atmosphere of violence.
- Second, we agreed to set up a group of eminent Commonwealth persons to encourage and carry forward that dialogue.

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- Third, we agreed on a programme of common action, which consolidated a number of measures we were already taking and added two new measures. My Rt Hon Friend set out the details of these measures in the House last week.

The Commonwealth Accord is not an ultimatum to the South African Government. It is a clear political signal from a united Commonwealth of the need for rapid change. We agreed that the action envisaged in the Commonwealth Accord should be applied equally to encourage South Africa to put an end to her illegal occupation of Namibia.

To mark the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations the meeting issued a declaration on world order reaffirming the Commonwealth's support for the United Nations as a force for peace and stability throughout the world.

Among the other specific subjects discussed, we welcomed the Commonwealth Consultative Group's report on the vulnerability of small states. The Government have already reviewed our own national programme of cooperation with small states and will continue to attach high priority to Commonwealth cooperation in this field.

Heads of Government expressed deep concern about the drugs problem. We agreed on the need both to counter the international traffic in illicit drugs, and to deny those convicted of drug trafficking the proceeds of their crime. We looked for enhanced cooperation between Commonwealth countries in this regard.

There was also a useful discussion of practical action against terrorism. We agreed that states should cooperate more closely in preventing and combatting all forms of terrorism, and agreed to strengthen our

/adherence

adherence to the relevant legal instruments. We urged the media to exercise due care in their reporting so as to avoid giving unwitting support to terrorism.

The communique also deals with a number of other issues, including the world economic situation.

I visited New York from 22-24 October on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations. I addressed the General Assembly on 24 October and have arranged for a copy of my speech to be placed in the Library of the House. I also held bilateral meetings with President Reagan, Mr Craxi, Mr Peres and Premier Zhao Ziyang, <sup>and</sup> ~~and~~ attended a meeting and a dinner given by President Reagan with the Heads of Government of Canada, the Federal Republic, Italy and Japan. We had a very worthwhile exchange of views on the prospects for President Reagan's forthcoming meeting with Mr Gorbachev. We hoped that those talks would achieve progress across the full range of East/West issues and give a strong impetus to current negotiations, particularly the arms control discussions in Geneva.

REFERENCES

NOTES FOR SUPPLEMENTARIES

CHOGM: PRIME MINISTER'S STATEMENT  
SUPPLEMENTARIES

POLITICAL - GENERAL

INTERNATIONALISM

Retreat from internationalism - Was there support for Mr Ramphal's views?

1. Views of Heads of Government are set out in the Nassau Declaration on World Order, marking the 40th Anniversary of the UN.

SMALL STATES

Does UK accept all 79 recommendations in Report?

2. We will be studying them, and we await detailed proposals on implementation. We can accept the vast majority of the Group's very sensible and constructive proposals.

Basic rationale of report?

3. Very similar to that which we proposed and is outlined in the Special Report of the Foreign Affairs Committee. FAC. Small states must be helped to help themselves. Prevention is better than cure. Security within the domestic, regional and global environments is the way to diminish this vulnerability.

Will UK now begin to give small states the help they require?

4. We already do a great deal - probably more than anyone else. We spent £61.3m on aid and security assistance to small states in 1983/84 and continue to do so. Recently for example, we committed a further £4.5m to enhance coastguard security in the Eastern Caribbean.

High enough priority for small states?

5. For obvious reasons they are not at the top of our list of priorities but [as I have suggested - previous question] we already do a great deal for them.

#### DRUGS

Hypocritical to discuss this subject in Nassau?

6. No. As is customary in the Commonwealth, delegations, including the Bahamians, expressed their views frankly and sincerely. Sir L Pindling in fact took the initiative to ensure that this problem which is a source of increasing worldwide concern, was given a full airing.

Why should the Commonwealth, rather than the UN or other more qualified forum, discuss this problem?

7. It was right and appropriate that the Commonwealth, encompassing a quarter of the world's population and many of the countries most affected by this terrible scourge, should discuss it in the Commonwealth's usual frank and constructive ambience. As Mr Ramphal once said "The Commonwealth cannot negotiate for the world but it can help the world to negotiate."

Problem requires action rather than talk?

8. Of course. But there has to be talk to encourage action. The problem transcends national borders and international co-operation is therefore essential if we are to tackle it effectively.

## TERRORISM

What can the Commonwealth do to combat? Many Commonwealth countries harbour terrorists - their own and their neighbours. Are some Commonwealth countries, eg India and Canada, not powerless in the face of hijackers and saboteurs?

9. International co-operation is required to combat a scourge which transcends national borders; coupled with the right domestic and security precautions. If all the countries of the Commonwealth (nearly a third of those in the UN) agree to common measures to combat terrorism, we shall limit their sphere of activity substantially and show the wider international community the way forward. This is why we insisted on the refusal to grant safe haven to terrorists. This an essential ingredient. Adherence to and reinforcement of the relevant civil aviation agreements provide the essential foundation.

Do Commonwealth governments not encourage terrorists viz the ANC? If they fail to act internally, how can they help to combat international terrorism?

10. An essential element in Heads of Government Accord on Southern Africa is the renunciation of violence by the ANC. We are only too well aware of the difficulty in combatting determined urban terrorists.

## LAW OF THE SEA

Pressure brought to bear on the UK over UNLOSC?

11. No. Our views on the Convention are well known both in the Commonwealth and in this House.

## UNESCO

Was the UK's proposal to withdraw discussed?

Are Commonwealth governments aware of our decision?

12. Our meeting coincided with the UNESCO General Conference in Sofia, which was the appropriate forum for such discussion. No final decision has yet been taken. Commonwealth representatives at Sofia were fully briefed on our position.

DISARMAMENT

Any specific proposals put forward?

13. No. But Heads of Government fully recognised the importance of a constructive and positive outcome to the forthcoming meeting between President Reagan and Mr Gorbachev to set the scene for further progress in Geneva.

POLITICAL - REGIONAL

CYPRUS

Language bias in Communiqué: Use of words and phrases provocative to Turkish Cypriot side eg "unity", "secessionist state", "foreign occupation", "condemnation" and "denounced"

14. Language of Communiqué reflects consensus among Heads of Government and represents their collective view. All phrasing has been used before either at CHOGM in 1983 or in Security Council resolutions. Inevitable there should be strong feelings among Heads of Government about division in a Commonwealth country. No intention to offend any of the parties. Main purpose of Communiqué was to underline support for UN Secretary-General.

Attitude to the "TRNC"/No Turkish Cypriot view at CHOGM?

15. We do not recognise the so-called "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus". We opposed and called for the reversal of the purported declaration of independence in 1983. We drafted and secured the adoption of UN Security Council Resolution 541 which deplored the Turkish Cypriot action and declared the view that it was legally invalid. That remains our position. But we acknowledge the interests and aspirations of the Turkish Cypriot community and maintain contact with members of the community in northern Cyprus. We take their interests into account both in formulation of policy towards Cyprus (including at CHOGM) and in our contribution to the current UN initiative.

"TRNC" Constitution and Elections?

16. Since we do not recognise the "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" it follows that we do not recognise any so-called constitutional developments in Northern Cyprus.



Role of Commonwealth Action Group?

17. As stated in Communiqué, its most helpful role is in support of Secretary-General's initiative. We do not want to risk crossing wires.

British Membership of CAG?

18. Members are Australia, Guyana, India, Nigeria and Zambia. As Guarantor Power we are in a special position and already closely involved. Breadth of membership of CAG offers Secretary-General advice and support from across the Commonwealth.

British Initiative?

19. UN Secretary-General's initiative remains best way forward. Must not cut across his efforts.

Greek Cypriot Elections?

20. We hope legislative elections in Cyprus will not cause undue delay in progress towards a settlement.

Recent Meetings?

Prime Minister/UN Secretary-General:	23 January (London)
	23 October (New York)
Prime Minister/President Kyprianou:	8 March (London)
	and at CHOGM (Nassau)
Secretary of State/ Turkish Foreign Minister:	6 June/25 September
	(International meetings)

21. Regular contact with President Kyprianou and Mr Denktash through British High Commission in Nicosia and at high level with Greek Government in Athens.

BELIZE

Communiqué refers to Britain's continuing role in helping to provide for Belize's security. How long will this last?

22. Have always made it clear that British forces will stay for an appropriate period, but this is not an open-ended commitment.

#### GRENADA

Was the situation discussed again?

23. Yes, the Grenadian Prime Minister (Mr Blaize) gave us a clear explanation of all that has been done to restore peace and democracy in Grenada. Heads of Government noted that tension in the Caribbean was greatly reduced.

#### SOUTH PACIFIC

Illogical to reaffirm the right of self-determination but also to stress the need to secure early independence for New Caledonia, when this may not be the wish of its people?

24. The phraseology could have been more felicitous. Self-determination does not necessarily, of course, equate with independence. But this was the form which the countries of the region wished to adopt. The important thing is that France has agreed that there should be an act of self-determination by the end of 1987.

#### INDIAN OCEAN

Why endorse the call for early UN Conference" Will HMG now work to facilitate such a Conference?

25. There was a widespread wish among Heads of Government for an early Conference. We have no objection in principle but hope that there can first be agreement about the objectives of such a Conference.

#### CENTRAL AMERICA

If tensions in Central America could threaten international security, why no Commonwealth action?

26. Heads of Government were concerned by the situation, but did not think it appropriate for them to become directly involved.

MIDDLE EAST

Communiqué refers to PLO as "the sole legitimate representative of the Palestine people". Is this a change in policy?

27. No. This view is attributed in the Communiqué to "most Heads of Government". As the House knows, it is not our view.

FALKLANDS

Were they discussed? Why no mention in the Communiqué?

28. Our views have been expressed often enough and are well known. It is important not to overload the Communiqué by rehearsing old and familiar arguments.

PAKISTAN

Was re-entry raised?

29. No.

[If pressed] We would welcome Pakistan's renewed membership, provided this were the wish of the Commonwealth as a whole.

BILATERALS

With whom and on what subjects?

30. The Retreat in particular provided opportunities for informal bilateral discussions with a wide range of Commonwealth leaders. I also held rather more formal discussions with Prime Ministers Mulroney, Hawke and Mugabe, and with President Kaunda. The discussions centred on Southern Africa.

## ECONOMIC

### Improved access to Compensatory Financing Facility?

(para 58 of Communiqué)

64. Seoul Bank and Fund meeting recently agreed to retain access to the CFF at the present level. As the enlarged access policy in general is to be scaled down, proportionately more resources will be available to the IMF as facilities for compensatory financing.

### Active dialogue on functioning of international monetary system?

65. Next stage will be discussions at IMF Interim Committee next April.

### International Conference to promote North/South dialogue?

66. Best to deal with problems on issue-by-issue basis. Adequate fora already available, eg IMF/IBRD and relevant parts of UN system. No need for new talking shops. Effective action to ensure sustainable growth in developing and developed world essential.

### World economic conditions?

67. Endorse IMF view that economic activity likely to strengthen in 1985 and 1986. Best contribution we can make is to pursue sustainable non-inflationary growth.

### New GATT round?

68. Worked hard to secure affirmation by CHOGM of importance of new round and need for urgent progress on trade liberalisation. Want widest possible participation, and agenda reflecting everyone's concerns. Want launch in 1986.

### Why services?

69. Aware of developing country concerns. No wish to ride roughshod. But 20% of world trade. Must find some way of bringing them within GATT disciplines in new round.

### EC attitude

70. March Foreign Affairs Council endorsed new round subject to adequate prior consensus. EC has made clear willingness to put everything on table for negotiation.

Population and Development: What is UK policy?

71. We have always played an active role in national and international programmes in this field and will continue to do so.

More Food Aid to Africa?

72. Increased pledges were agreed for contributions to CFTC, for which HMG pays 30% of all government pledges. CFTC will pay special attention to the problems of sub-Saharan Africa.

FUNCTIONAL CO-OPERATION

Human Rights

Does the Commonwealth Secretariat's Human Rights Unit duplicate activities in the UN and other fora?

73. It does not. But there is a need both to monitor and co-ordinate Commonwealth activity in this field.

Non-Governmental Organisations

Non-Governmental Organisations: Why no decision taken to co-ordinate role of Commonwealth non-governmental organisations?

74. It was agreed to do this through the Commonwealth Foundation, rather than through the Secretariat. The Foundation already has good relations with the great majority of NGOs, excluding only those whose interests are primarily political or sectarian.

Ecology/Environment

Did this come up?

75. No, though the matter is covered in the report of the Commonwealth Science Council which was submitted to the meeting.

## COMMONWEALTH

### Value of Commonwealth

What value does Prime Minister attach to ~~the~~ it?

76. Considerable. The package we agreed on South Africa was a marvellous example of Commonwealth co-operation, as were our agreements on terrorism and drugs - two problems of vast, worldwide concern. But that's not all. The report on small states, the programme of the CFTC and a whole range of other functional co-operation have a profound effect on the peoples - not just the governments - of the Commonwealth.

### Use of Commonwealth

What use is it to Britain or the world?

77. The insight offered us by the Commonwealth into a wide range of attitudes is unique - "our window on the world". And it provides a special link with 48 other countries, of growing importance in the increasingly interdependent world. And, in Mr Ramphal's words, the Commonwealth can "help the world to negotiate", as we have shown.

### Cost of Commonwealth

What is cost to Her Majesty's Government of membership?

78. Tiny, given what it offers. Our subscription to all Commonwealth organisations, official and unofficial, including the Secretariat, CFTC, CYP, CPA etc is under £23m pa.

### UK Delegation

How large and how much did it cost?

79. This year we reduced the delegation to 20, plus support staff, some of them from our High Commission in Nassau. This is a bare minimum for a Conference of this length and variety. I do not have the total costs to hand, but will let the Honourable Member know this in due course.