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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Never before has the Commonwealth undertaken such a mission or mounted such a major operation in the field. Consultation has been the lifeblood of the Commonwealth, but on this occasion it was translated into action and finally brought to fruition. Although each of us came to this mission as a stranger to his colleagues, a spirit of harmony informed our work throughout.

We wish to pay a warm tribute to the devoted and untiring labours of the Commonwealth Secretariat team, both in the Provinces and in Salisbury. They worked efficiently and with a high sense of purpose in very difficult circumstances, and made it possible for us to function independently of the official machine. Their assistance was invaluable in helping us to discharge our responsibilities in all their aspects. In expressing our indebtedness and deep appreciation to all of them, we would like, in particular, to highlight the special contribution to our work of Mr. Moni Malhoutra, the leader of the Secretariat team; Mr. Peter Snelson, its co-Director; Mr. Jeremy Pope, the Group's Secretary; and Mr. Derek Ingram, its Media Adviser. Our thanks are due to Mr. Fred Grante and Mr. Peter Dunne for the excellence of the administrative and logistical arrangements, and to Mr. Joe de Souza, Miss Anne Mittelholzer and Mrs. Carole Costa for the cheerfulness with which they discharged their heavy secretarial responsibilities.

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Our final words of thanks must be to the political leaders and people of Zimbabwe. They saw our very presence in their country as a reassurance. Their confidence and trust will be a cherished and life-long memory.

Salisbury

8 March 1980