

Foreword to the Transformation of Societies Series

In November 2007, Commonwealth Heads of Government adopted the Kampala Declaration on Transforming Societies to Achieve Political, Economic and Human Development. The Declaration reaffirmed the Commonwealth's commitment to raising living standards and to achieving a more equitable international society free from poverty, ignorance and disease. This requires social and economic transformation.

Recognising that the challenges faced in transforming societies require international collaboration and co-operation, Commonwealth leaders committed 'to explore ways in which each of us can share and strengthen our relations with each other, in order to support transformation for us all'.

This *Transformation of Societies* series is part of the Secretariat's response to the mandate of facilitating transformation across Commonwealth member countries. The series includes a number of sectoral and thematic case studies, which discuss political, economic and social transformation.

The Secretariat acknowledges that there is, no doubt, more than one route to achieving successful transformation. Nevertheless, by identifying some of the mechanisms and policy measures that have triggered a process of transformation across different sectors of society, we hope that this series may provide useful insights to developing Commonwealth member countries.

Ransford Smith
Deputy Secretary-General

