

INTRODUCTION

In 1968, the Commonwealth Secretariat published a small booklet listing research programmes in the field of education then in progress at a number of Commonwealth universities. The response to this publication was sufficiently favourable for the Secretariat to be encouraged to publish a further volume on the same topic in 1969. The enthusiastic response to the 1969 volume made it apparent that such a publication should be a regular feature of the Education Division's information programme, and it was subsequently decided that a Register of on-going research programmes should be published biennially.

The Register presents information received from institutes and departments of Education and other organisations conducting research into education in the developing countries of the Commonwealth. In response to requests made by the Secretariat in March, 1971, contributions to the Register were received from fifty-five organisations in twenty-one countries. These contributions were classified under eighteen areas of educational research.

Copies of the Register are sent to Commonwealth governments, to Commonwealth institutions conducting educational research, to contributors and to a number of prominent educationalists.

The Education Division of the Commonwealth Secretariat has as its major function the encouragement and promotion of co-operation in education among member countries. The Fifth Commonwealth Education Conference, meeting at Canberra in February, 1971, laid particular emphasis on the need for the exchange, among Commonwealth countries, of information on educational research and experimentation, which are essential to the improvement of the quality of education and the reduction of costs. It is hoped that the Register will lead to a further expansion of co-operative activities by facilitating the establishment of professional contacts between those who are engaged on research projects.

The Education Division welcomes comments and suggestions which might lead to improvements in future editions of the Register.