Networking Learning Communities for Development

COL and the Millennium Development Goals

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Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Valletta, Malta
25-27 November 2005
COL’s key reference group: Commonwealth Ministers of Education

- COL’s work is made possible through voluntary contributions by Commonwealth Governments
Sir John Daniel
President and Chief Executive Officer
MISSION STATEMENT

Recognising knowledge as key to cultural, social and economic development, the Commonwealth of Learning is committed to assisting Commonwealth member governments to take full advantage of open, distance and technology-mediated learning strategies to provide increased and equitable access to education and training for all their citizens.
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THE COMMONWEALTH OF LEARNING AND
THE MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

COMMONWEALTH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING
VALLETTA, MALTA | NOVEMBER 2005
MDG #1: Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
MDG #2: Achieve universal primary education
MDG #3: Promote gender equality and empower women
MDG #4, 5 and 6: the Health Goals

4. Reduce child mortality

5. Improve maternal health

6. Combat HIV/Aids, malaria and other diseases
MDG #7: Ensure environmental sustainability
MDG #8: Develop a global partnership for development

Learning Object Repositories
30 October – 3 November 2006
Ocho Rios, Jamaica
Theme: “Achieving Development Goals: Innovation, Learning, Collaboration and Foundations
Open and Distance Learning for Development
Recommendations

That member Governments:

1. AFFIRM continued support for the Virtual University for Small States of the Commonwealth and encourage the governments of larger states to facilitate its work by the transfer of technology and by financial support to programmes that further the achievement of the MDGs.

2. RECOMMEND to providing COL an annual budget of $24m as approved by the 1999 Durban CHOGM, commend Botswana, Canada, Namibia, South Africa and Trinidad and Tobago for recently increasing their contributions, welcome Sierra Leone as a new contributor and encourage all member states to pledge core support for COL when its 2005/09 Plan is presented to the Conference of Commonwealth Ministers of Education in December 2006.

3. NOTE Australia’s clarification that it wishes to continue to support COL and believes that the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Cooperation (CFTC), to which it has provided an increase, could provide a vehicle for doing so when CFTC priorities can be enhanced through COL’s work.

ENCOURAGE the CFTC to view COL as an agent of choice when it seeks to support education and training initiatives for which COL has specialized expertise.

4. UTILISE the support that COL can give to the work of a variety of Ministries, not only Education/Higher Education but also Agriculture, Communications, Health, Planning and other departments that engage with the MDGs.
Thank you

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