Regional Stakeholders’ Meeting (Caribbean)

March 25, 2014

Professor Asha Kanwar
President & CEO,
Commonwealth of Learning
The Commonwealth

The Commonwealth comprises 53 developed and developing nations around the world.

Map published by the Communications and Public Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat.
The Commonwealth is home to

- 1/3 of the world’s poor, 2/3 of them are women (ODI, 2009);
- 23.3 million children out of primary school (Education in the Commonwealth 2012);
- 462 million adult illiterates (Education in the Commonwealth 2012)
The Commonwealth: more stats

- 60% of the population under 30 (UN World Population Prospects 2012 Revision)
- 52% of the maternal deaths (World Bank 2010)
- 53% of infant deaths (World Bank 2012)
- 65% of HIV/AIDS (WHO 2012)
Tertiary Enrolment in the Caribbean (Commonwealth) 2004 - 2012

## Gross Enrollment Ratio in Secondary & Tertiary, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country/Regions</th>
<th>Secondary %</th>
<th>Tertiary %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin American &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>41</td>
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</tbody>
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ICT in the Caribbean 2004 - 2011

Why COL?

Why in Vancouver?
Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Vancouver, 1987
The Commonwealth of Learning

WHAT IS IT FOR?

To help Commonwealth governments and institutions use various technologies to improve and expand education, training and learning in support of development.
Who are we?

- 34 staff in Vancouver
- 7 staff in New Delhi
- Networks across Commonwealth
- Focal points in 52 countries
- Commonwealth-wide Board
COL Board of Governors 2013
Who are we?

The Hon Burchell Whiteman
Board Chair

COL’s Vancouver Staff

Professor Asha Kanwar
President & CEO
Where is it?

Vancouver
(Headquarters)

New Delhi
(CEMCA)
Regional Support

- Southern African Development Community Centre for Distance Education (SADC-CDE)
- Regional Training and Research Institute for Open and Distance Learning (RETRIDOL)
- Caribbean Regional Centre (being finalised)
- Pacific Regional Centre (being finalised)
Who supports COL?
Commonwealth governments make voluntary contributions to COL’s budget

Major Donors:
- Canada
- UK
- India
- Nigeria
- New Zealand
- Australia
- South Africa

The number of countries contributing rose from 23 in 2003-06 to 44 in 2009-2012
Focal Points

PACIFIC

AFRICA & THE MEDITERRANEAN

CARIBBEAN

ASIA
Reporting on our work

- Country Action Proposals
- Country Action Plans
- Country Reports
COMMONWEALTH OF LEARNING
(COL)

Learning for Development
COL’s Strategic Goals

- Quality education for all Commonwealth citizens
- Human resource development in the Commonwealth
- Harnessing ODL and technologies to achieve development goals
Education
Livelihoods & Health
Cross-cutting themes
COL Priorities

- Girls and Women’s Education
- Open Educational Resources
- Skills Development
Open Learning for Development: Towards Empowerment and Transformation

Abuja, Nigeria
Reputation Today

- Results-oriented
- Flexible and responsive
- Delivers value for money
Inputs to the planning process

- Feedback from Focal points
- Carry forward from current TYP
- Lessons from M&E
- Inputs from partners and other stakeholders
- Global trends
THANK YOU