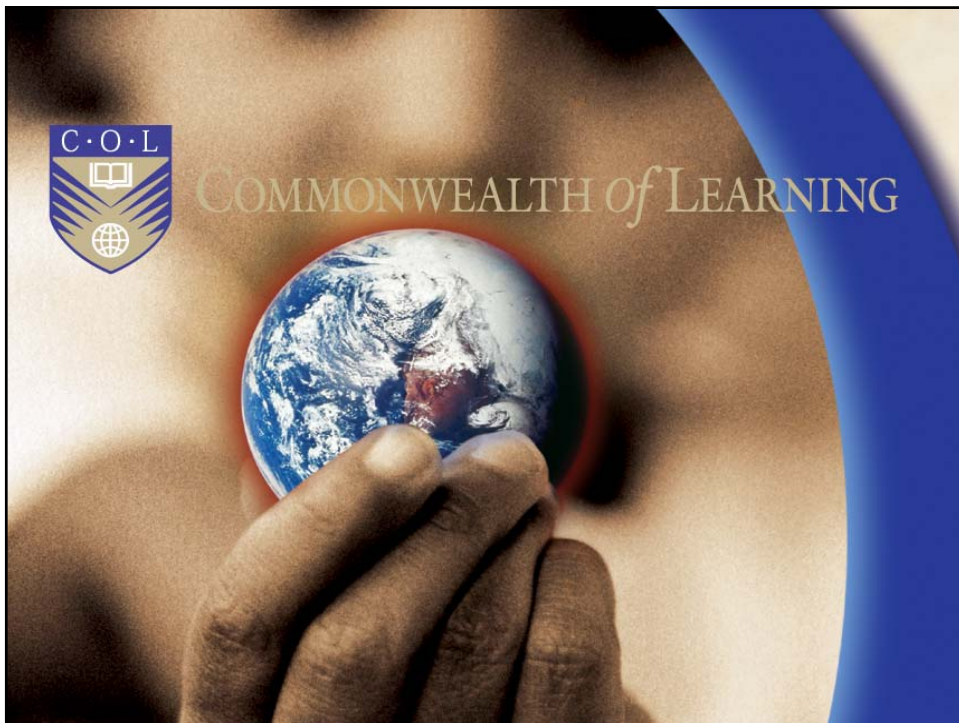




COMMONWEALTH *of* LEARNING





Networking Learning Communities for Development

COL and the Millennium Development Goals

**Lewis Perinbam, O.C.
Chairman, Board of Governors, COL**

**Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
Valletta, Malta
25-27 November 2005**



COL's key reference group: Commonwealth Ministers of Education

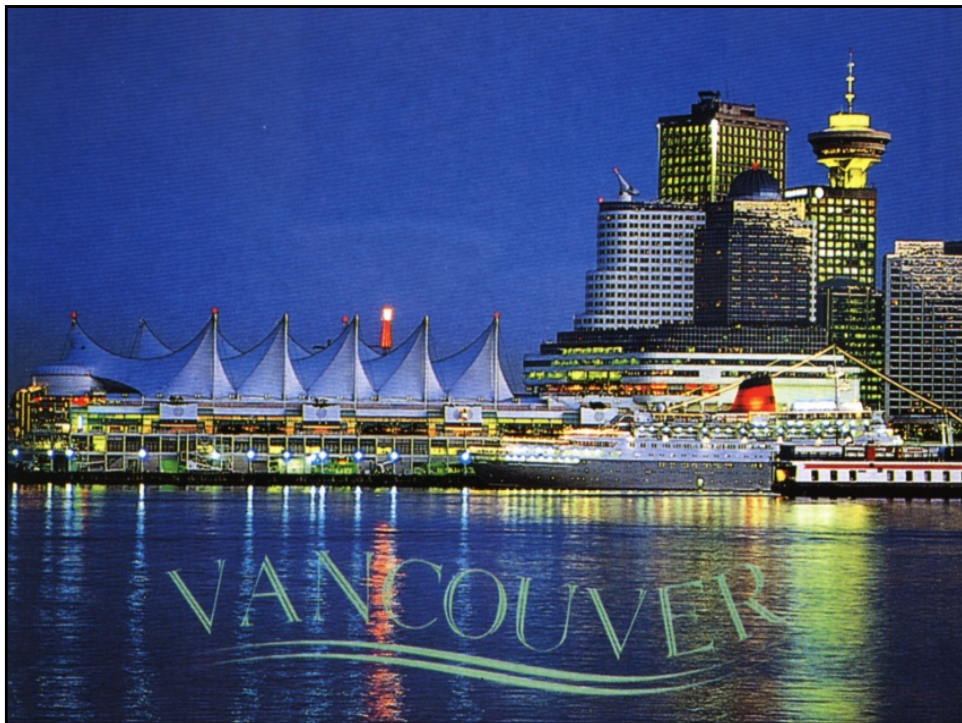
- COL's work is made possible through voluntary contributions by Commonwealth Governments



**Dato'
Professor
Gajaraj
Dhanarajan**



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.

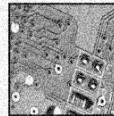


Networking Learning Communities for Development



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



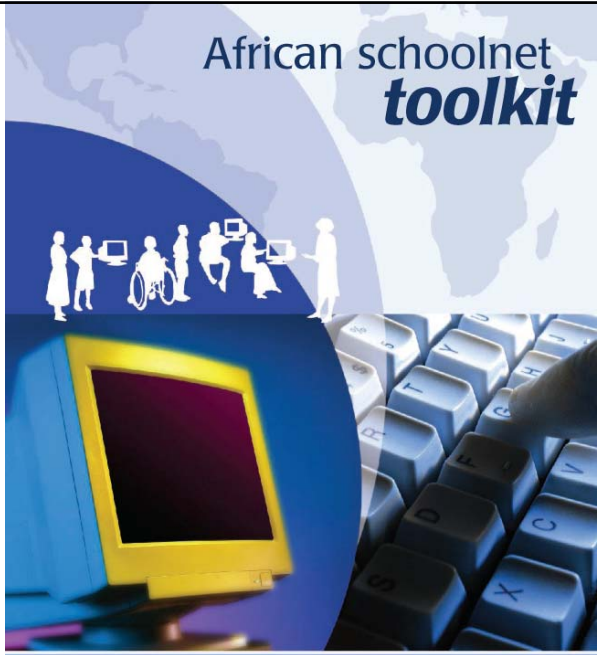


MDG #2: Achieve universal primary education





African schoolnet *toolkit*



CEMBA/CEMPA



Allama Iqbal Open University
(Pakistan)



Indira Gandhi National
Open University
(India)



Bangladesh Open University



Open University of Sri Lanka



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



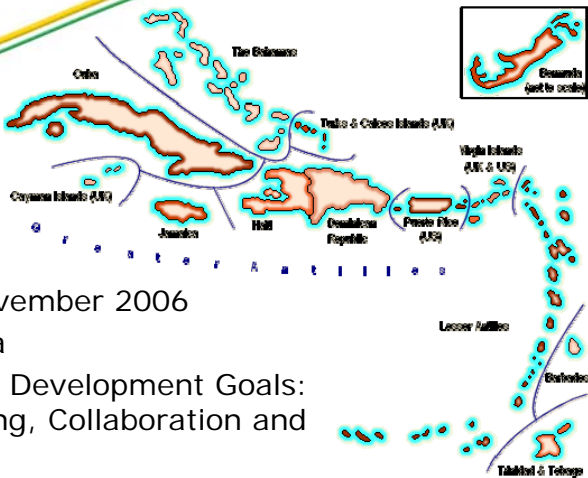


MDG #8: Develop a global partnership for development





The Fourth Pan Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning



- 30 October – 3 November 2006
- Ocho Rios, Jamaica
- Theme: "Achieving Development Goals: Innovation, Learning, Collaboration and Foundations"



COMMONWEALTH of LEARNING

***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. RECOMMIT to providing COL an annual budget of \$Cdn 9 million 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 2006-09 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 advanced 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 specialised 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

**Networking Learning Communities
for Development**

COL and the Millennium Development Goals



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for Development***