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Matters



PRIME MINISTER'S  
PERSONAL MESSAGE  
SERIAL No. TITIA/83

Commonwealth: CHOCAM  
P75.

Prime Minister  
Wellington  
New Zealand

2 November 1983

Dear Margaret,

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In preparing for the meeting of Commonwealth Heads of Government in New Delhi next month, I have been giving particular attention to the item on the agenda dealing with the international economy. Although the future of the Commonwealth's role in Grenada is likely to attract considerable attention, I believe the international economy will be the most important underlying issue that we will be discussing in New Delhi. At Mrs Gandhi's invitation, I have sent her some suggestions on how we might approach this issue. I enclose a copy for your information.

The basis of these suggestions is my belief that the Commonwealth can make an important contribution to the debate on the international economy. The issues have been addressed many times in other major international forums since Commonwealth Heads of Government last met. The complexities and linkages between the range of issues that would need to be included in a comprehensive examination of the international economy are well understood. What is lacking is any agreement on a framework for negotiating a realistic strategy for action, based on a common analysis. In this respect, I was encouraged by the decision taken at the Williamsburg Summit to invite the Ministers of Finance of the Summit nations, together with the Managing Director of the IMF, to define the conditions for improving the international monetary system and to consider the

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The Right Honourable Margaret Thatcher  
Prime Minister  
10 Downing Street  
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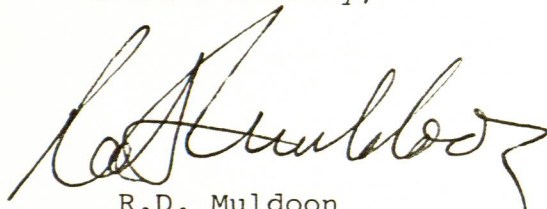


part that might be played by an international monetary conference.

I have no doubt that such a study would conclude that any process designed to improve the international economy will have to acknowledge the fundamental changes that have taken place in the nature of international economic relations since the present system was set in place. If a politically viable strategy for action is to emerge, it will need to take account of the full range of opinions that now exist within the international economy. The Commonwealth, with its broadly representative nature and its capacity for innovative thinking, can provide a crucial political impetus to this process.

I am looking forward to seeing you in New Delhi and discussing these issues with you further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R.D. Muldoon', with a stylized, cursive script.

R.D. Muldoon