CABINET COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Response of the Government to Equality for All

Process of Caucus Consultation

Background

1. At the meeting of CCSD of November, Ministers expressed this view that opportunity for consultation with the government caucus should be provided.

2. Ministers discussed means by which consultation should be provided, including opportunity for briefings on the issues by experts inside and meetings outside regular caucus time were to be considered. To assist in consultation, a grouping of recommendations in the Report by subject area was to be contemplated.

3. Preliminary discussions with the Chairman of Caucus have confirmed the desire of caucus to be fully involved in a discussion of the Government's response.

Options

4. Presentation of the issues and preliminary response of the Government to caucus at a special meeting(s) within three categories:

   a) recommendations the Government intends to adopt;
   b) recommendations the Government intends to adopt after a period of further study, or when resources permit; and
   c) recommendations the Government does not intend to accept.

   Such a presentation would occur after interdepartmental consultation and initial consideration by CCSD.

5. Consideration by caucus of the issues involved in the response to <u>Equality for All</u> in advance of initial consideration by CCSD. Such consultation would be based on a schedule and priorities established by relevant caucus committees, culminating in the Government's intentions after consideration by CCSD.

   Recommendations and responses would be grouped by issue area, so as to be more easily discussed by relevant caucus committees.

<u>RECOMMENDATIONS</u>

6. The Chairman of CCSD and the Minister of Justice be authorized to work out in cooperation with the Chairman of Caucus a specific timetable and format for consideration of the Government's response to <u>Equality for All.</u>

7. The timetable for caucus consultation be consistent with that established for consideration by cabinet of the Government's response.