Nexus Commonwealth Outstanding Contribution

WINNER: MR PETER WILLIAMS OBE

PRESENTED BY: His Excellency Professor Kwaku Danso-Boafo
High Commissioner of Ghana to the United Kingdom

CITATION: Peter has dedicated nearly half a century to improving access to quality education in the Commonwealth. After 6 years as an Education Planning Advisor to the Ministries of Education in Kenya and Ghana in the 1960s, he became Head of Education in Developing Countries at the Institute of Education in London.

A decade later, in 1984 he was appointed Director of the Human Resource Development Division and the Education Programme of the Commonwealth Secretariat. Among his many achievements in this role, he supported the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan, guided the Commonwealth Standing Committee on Student Mobility and aided the conceptualisation of the Commonwealth of Learning.

Although Peter left the Secretariat in 1994 his commitment to Commonwealth education did not diminish. Over the past 18 years he has advised Ministries of Education throughout the Commonwealth, simultaneously holding executive positions with the Council for Education in the Commonwealth and the Commonwealth Consortium for Education.

Awarded an OBE in 2005 for his services to international education, Peter has been associated with many innovations that have left their mark on education cooperation and development in the Commonwealth.