

## PREFACE

The accompanying draft Interpretation Bill was prepared for the Commonwealth Secretariat by Mr. G.C. Thornton, who is well known as the author of Legislative Drafting (Butterworths, London), a book used widely around the Commonwealth.

The draft seeks to draw upon the many existing Interpretation Acts in Commonwealth jurisdictions and to draw together what is most useful to provide the core for a model Interpretation Bill. As the notes suggest, no Interpretation Bill can be drafted in a vacuum, and any resulting Act must inevitably be designed to accommodate local matters.

It is hoped that this model may provide a useful starting point for a jurisdiction wishing to review its Interpretation legislation.

The Secretariat is, of course, greatly indebted to Mr. Thornton for his work to this end.

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