

normally allowable current cutting quotas may have to be increased to meet emergency conditions. Temporary excess fellings should, however, be part of over-all plans which will make adequate provision for compensatory measures to restore growing stock and maintain productive capacity of Commonwealth forests.

*“The indigenous forests have been, and must continue to be for the next twenty years, overcut, but the enormous exotic establishment programme initiated in 1925 has already reduced overcutting by almost 100,000,000 board feet annually, and by 1965 should have reduced the overcut to negligible proportions.”*

## RESOLUTION II: LAND USE

2. The Conference approves the report of the Land Use Committee and calls the attention of the Governments of the Commonwealth to the recommendations contained therein, and particularly to the following :—

(1) That there is urgent need for clear-cut planning based on the allocation of each type of land to the purpose for which it is best suited in the long-term interests of the national economy. Individual Governments should enact legislation, where it does not already exist, for the establishment of a supreme land use authority, having adequate forest representation, with directive at the highest level, and with the power and funds necessary to implement an approved land planning policy, based on suitable land use surveys and supported by vigorous educational campaigns.

*“This objective has been largely achieved by the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act, 1941, which is an Act making provision for the conservation of soil resources and for the prevention of damage by erosion. An inter-departmental committee consisting of representatives of the Department of Agriculture, Lands and Survey Department, Soil Survey Branch of the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, and of the Forest Service determines the suitability of land for forestry purposes, and likewise excludes from forest reservation all land suitable for farming purposes. The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council maintains a vigorous educational campaign.”*

(2) That further research into problems of land utilization and conservation and restoration of the soil should be carried out, and that adequate funds should be made available for this purpose.

*“Extensive research is being carried out by the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Council in co-operation with all Departments interested in land use.”*

(3) That Governments should take early steps to ensure that private or commercially owned forests and woodlands are managed in accordance with the principles of sound forestry.

*“As mentioned in last year’s annual report, existing forest legislation needs to be strengthened in order to provide for this objective, and provision is accordingly being recommended when existing statutes are consolidated.”*

(4) That, in some countries of the Commonwealth, the encouragement of the practice of sound forestry on private or on leased Crown lands will require adjustment of the incidence of taxation and conditions of tenure.

*“A specialist officer, Mr. M. B. Grainger, B.Com., has recently visited Great Britain and Northern Europe in order to study forest taxation. The results of his investigations will be used by the Government as a basis for the re-examination of taxation of private forestry operations.”*