

It will be recalled that in my last year's broadcast speech I made it clear that one of the implications of independence was that we would, as a sovereign nation, deal direct with the outside world on international matters. And so we now do; for in the modern world "No man can afford to be an Island unto himself".

With effect from the 6th September, 1968, Government established diplomatic missions in the United Kingdom and in the United States of America. We also have a permanent mission at the United Nations Headquarters. And soon after the restoration of our independence we became members of the Organisation of African Unity, the United Nations Organisation, and the Commonwealth of Nations. We have also become a party to numerous multilateral as well as bilateral conventions and treaties. These include the following :

- (a) Protocol relating to the status of refugees;
- (b) Vienna convention on diplomatic relations;
- (c) Convention on transit trade of land-locked states;
- (d) Convention and statute on freedom of transit;
- (e) Treaty on the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;
- (f) General convention on the Privileges and immunities of the O.A.U.;
- (g) International convention on the elimination of all forms of racial discrimination;
- (h) Compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice;
- (i) Trade Agreements with Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Malawi;
- (j) Extradition treaty with the Republic of South Africa.

In addition, the Kingdom of Swaziland has already established diplomatic relations with no less than twelve countries.

Localisation and training in the Public Sector have taken a big leap forward. All except four of the Permanent Secretary posts have been localised. The majority of the administrative, executive and clerical staff are now local; altogether 172 Swazi students are at present studying outside the country; and they are to be found in such countries as Lesotho, the U.S.A., Canada, the United Kingdom, Kenya, Ghana, India, Malawi, Australia, and South Korea. The Staff Training Institute remains an asset.

Construction of our Parliament Building at Lobamba has been completed. Work will commence in the near future on the building of a national centre at Lobamba. The centre will consist of a museum, national archives, a national library, an auditorium for indoor film shows and games, and an open-air theatre.

The achievements/