

I would hope we could use this Conference, Mr. Chairman, to declare to the world that we now want to make our performance match our good intentions. This will be the real approach of courage and confidence-building. It is all too easy to hide behind the need for systemic change and do nothing in the meantime. It would be unfortunate if we allowed this Conference to pass a series of resolutions which were not based on a common analysis of our real problems and the action we need to undertake together. In brief, I would hope that this Conference could issue a declaration that, as a world community, we are committed to work together in a spirit of interdependence and establish priorities for our work programme in the future.

In a recent address to the Canadian Institute of International Affairs, the Canadian Prime Minister suggested that we needed to "rekindle a fundamental spirit of enlightened internationalism" which could lead to both better understanding and commitment. The interlinkages between growth, trade, finance, energy, debt and other economic factors have become increasingly complex in recent years, and our slowness in understanding this phenomenon, and the aggregate effect on our global economy, has been at least part of the cause of our difficulties. The discussion we shall have under Item 8 of our agenda can, I know, contribute significantly to our shared knowledge of these factors and their interaction, particularly as between developed and developing countries. A common analysis of the economic forces and trends at work in the interdependent world of the 1980s seems to us to be an essential prerequisite to making the system work, and enhancing development prospects.

As I have already said, all countries must contribute to the economic recovery and development. Vigorous economies in developing countries are becoming as essential to the well-being of the North as the economies of the North are to the development objectives of the South. This is a two-way street. Just as the developing world counts on the industrial world to provide open if not preferential markets for its products, the North needs ready access for its products. Just as the G-77 expects the wealthier countries to make further structural adjustments away from economic activities wherein the South has a competitive edge, there is a return requirement for enlightened and effective economic management in the developing world which properly capitalizes on market forces, attracts investment, and applies ODA efficiently. Just as Southern countries rightly count on wealthier nations to contribute to their development, the Northern countries expect those who receive assistance to recognize primary responsibility for their own development, and to