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The contacts that Canada and Indonesia have so successfully developed in the past few years, however, extend beyond the bilateral to the multilateral, where we have found that we could co-operate on certain issues and consult each other to good effect on others. I recall that, at the United Nations, Canada was a member of the Security Council at a time when we were able to make a contribution to Indonesia's independence. Since then, we have a common interest to find realistic and workable solutions to the problems that so tragically divide the world. We share a belief in the virtues of flexibility and compromise, and in the need to keep open the lines of communication. In my view, this approach has served us well at the Law of the Sea Conference, where as coastal states we share many common objectives. The co-operation between our two delegations has contributed greatly to the development of new concepts, such as the economic zone and the regime to be applied to archipelagoes. At the crucial session now taking place in New York, it is of the utmost importance that we continue this co-operation to ensure that generally-acceptable solutions to the many outstanding issues are found.

Indonesia and Canada also share membership in the Conference on International Economic Co-operation, which is a major effort to come to grips with perhaps the most crucial and challenging issue of our times. As co-chairman of the Conference, I have been engaged in an intensive round of consultations with the group of industrialized countries and with my fellow co-chairman, Dr. Perez Guerrero, in an effort to move the dialogue forward.

In my view, the problems we face in CIEC are difficult but not insurmountable, and I am very pleased that I had an opportunity to discuss these questions with Mr. Widjojo, who has given me some valuable insights into the issues that are of primary concern to the Indonesian authorities.

...I have touched on some of the issues that concern Indonesia and Canada, both in the bilateral and in the multilateral spheres. I do not wish, however, to exhaust your patience by attempting to exhaust my subject. I have tried to indicate, briefly, where we stand in Indonesia-Canada relations. The dialogue has begun, and it has begun well. But we still know far too little of each other. We must work to expand the dialogue, and this will take the co-operation and active assistance of governments as well as our respective private sectors. The Canadian Government will be playing an active role in this process and my talks with my Indonesian counterparts have confirmed to me that the Indonesian Government shares the same objectives.

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