

Other long-term issues of a vital nature - food production in developing countries, access to technology and an understanding of its impact on societies, for example - also need to be the focus of understanding at the political level. As negotiating issues, it seems to me they're getting nowhere very fast. As political issues of global importance, it may be that a better long-term grasp of the overall policy aspects involved will disengage the system.

Ladies and Gentlemen, in order for the North/South accommodation process to proceed, we have to recognize, as political leaders, that we are dealing with the most significant political questions of our time. The issue of power-sharing - in the interests of global economic opportunities - should be seen as a political issue and dealt with at the political level by political leaders. This is the thrust of the Brandt Report and we accept its wisdom.

It is our intention here that Canada will contribute actively to that process, as mentioned at the outset of this presentation. Prime Minister Trudeau, who had to be away at the time of your meeting, hopes himself to be able to make a personal contribution to the advancement of the dialogue. The Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, and North/South statesman Allan MacEachen, who, with Dr. Perez-Guerrero, whose presence here tonight I am honoured to acknowledge, was co-chairman of Conference on International Economic Cooperation, will address some of the issues in meeting with you tomorrow. I am happy to have been here tonight to deal with the overall political commitment involved. It has been an honour.

When I met Mr. Willy Brandt this week, he spoke to me with great animation of the successful efforts my colleagues and I had made in Vienna and of the growing group of people throughout the world who are whole-heartedly engaged in the North/South Dialogue. How fundamentally necessary this is for humanity was expressed in concluding words of the Brandt report:

"Whatever their differences and however profound, there is a mutuality of interest between North and South. The fate of both is intimately connected. The search for solutions is not an act of benevolence but a condition of mutual survival".

Canada has often been written about as a nation characterized by the notion and the reality of survival. It is my fervent hope that, with a broadening of our traditional perspectives, our Canadian instinct for survival may serve to contribute to the survival of the whole world.