

5. Support for International Development

Canada is committed to an active, effective and humane programme of development cooperation with the disadvantaged countries and peoples of the world. Despite the imperatives of the Government's expenditure reduction programme, the Canadian International Development Agency expects to spend approximately one billion dollars for Canada's aid programme in 1979-80, an increase of approximately \$100 million compared with CIDA's forecast expenditures for 1978-1979. While this rate of growth is less than originally planned, CIDA's global programme has not been cut and its expenditures will increase in the coming year. In addition, continued attention is being paid to ways and means of sharpening the focus and improving the quality and management of Canada's development assistance programme.

6. East-West Relations, Security, Arms Control and Disarmament

(a) East-West Relations

While the relaxation of tensions in Europe is still regarded as a desirable goal by both East and West and the situation in Europe remains stable, conflicts in other areas over the last couple of years have had an impact on détente. The questions raised by continuing Soviet/Cuban involvement in Africa, and the armed conflict between communist states in South East Asia, linked with heightened Sino-Soviet stress, have put détente in the global sense to the test. Against this background it seems more important than ever for Canada and other Western countries to work in ways which will prevent the erosion of confidence and in effect reaffirm the value of détente. It is in this spirit that Canada has pursued relations of mutual advantage with the Soviet Union and the countries of Eastern Europe. Likewise we are actively preparing for the next CSCE review meeting in Madrid. We believe that the successful conclusion of a SALT II agreement has a major contribution to make to a more confident East-West relationship and that it will help to move the MBFR Talks in Vienna off dead centre. At the same time we welcome China's decision to end its self-imposed isolation and the emphasis it intends to place on the modernization of its economy over the next two decades. Building on Government efforts since 1970 to establish a framework of contacts and understanding essential for cooperation with China in the commercial field, Canada moved quickly in 1978 to take advantage of new opportunities presented by China's opening to the West. We see no reason