

with developing countries. It also provides the vehicle for a multi-dimensional approach. Its mandate is:

- (a) to direct a continuing review of policies as they affect Canada's economic and other relations with developing countries;
- (b) to consider the consistency of Canada's international economic and other policies with its development policies;
- (c) to ensure the preparation of policy positions for major international meetings affecting Canada's economic and other relations with developing countries.

The departments and agencies that participate in its work are: the Prime Minister's Office; the Privy Council Office; the Department of Finance, Industry, Trade and Commerce, Consumer and Corporate Affairs, Agriculture, Energy, Mines and Resources; the Ministry of Transport; the Ministry of State for Science and Technology; CIDA and the Treasury Board; as well as the Department of External Affairs.

The Committee first met late in 1974 and has held four sessions at the senior level during 1975. I chair the Committee but, if I am not able to do so, it is chaired by an Assistant Under-Secretary responsible for this area in my Department.

Between sessions of the Committee, work is carried forward under a task force chaired by the Director-General of the Bureau of Economic and Scientific Affairs of the Department of External Affairs, Miss McDougall. In addition, individual working groups are set up from time to time to pursue work on specific matters.

The Committee does not work in isolation but draws on the work of other interdepartmental committees with responsibilities in related areas.

In the normal course of events, its analysis and recommendations are presented to Cabinet by the Secretary of State for External Affairs. These may relate to a major international meeting such as the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Kingston or the Seventh Special Session or to ongoing work within the Government related to the regular round of consultations with developing and developed countries bilaterally or in international organizations. There are four central areas on which the Committee and the task force have concentrated their attention:

- (1) commodities;
- (2) trade liberalization;