
Canada's goal is to build on the foundations we helped to create through our co-chairmanship of the CIEC (Conference on International Economic Co-operation). Given the proper climate we shall work hard to devise a strategy that is both broadly acceptable and realistic. In the coming weeks, Canada's representatives here, and at other UN and related meetings, will announce additional Canadian financial commitments to a large number of international organizations. I shall not take time today to relate the details. I do wish, however to say a word about food aid.

The world food shortage has been eased by good harvests in many countries. However, the factors that gave rise to the recent crisis are still present, and recent studies concur in the likelihood of a shortfall in the next five to ten years. One proposal to improve world food-security concerns the idea of a 500,000-ton emergency grain-reserve. Canada previously announced a willingness to contribute along with other donors. I am now able to announce that, subject to Parliamentary approval, we should be willing to provide the equivalent of \$7.5 million in food grain — roughly 50,000 tons or 10 per cent of the total objective.

At this session, we must establish the machinery for developing a New International Development Strategy for the Third Development Decade. This task provides us with a rare opportunity to demonstrate the continuing relevance of the United Nations. We can take advantage of it, or we can allow our deliberations to deteriorate into sterile rhetorical exchanges that will sap the good will of those who must give and deepen the bitterness of the receivers. Let us resolve now to choose the first course.

of the sea

Since I last spoke to this Assembly, there have been important developments with respect to the Law of the Sea Conference. This historic conference illustrates very well some of the best and some of the worst aspects of United Nations deliberations and processes. Without the UN there is little doubt that management and control of the oceans and their resources would have deteriorated into anarchy. The conference is, therefore, one of the UN's great achievements; its originators and all who have participated deserve great credit. But it is an agonizingly slow process.

In the past 12 months, many countries, including Canada, have extended their fishing jurisdiction over living resources in their coastal waters out to 200 miles. While it is true that these actions are based upon the common will of states reflected in the draft conference texts, it is also true that, before that point could be reached, many fish-stocks had become dangerously depleted, vital elements of the world's fishing industry were jeopardized and serious confrontations developed between traditionally-friendly countries.

There are legitimate and complex reasons why the negotiations were difficult. But we cannot ignore the fact either that old habits and patterns are hard to abandon, and it is ironic in some respects that only by acting in advance of the conclusion of the conference did Canada and countries who took similar action enhance the United Nations and the undoubted value of the conference. This lesson should, and I hope will, lend new urgency to the important work of the conference that remains to be completed. We have taken ten years to come this far, and the gains will be dissipated by a series
