

Mr. Chairman, the Conference on International Economic Cooperation (CIEC) grappled with two of the major challenges facing mankind - the energy question, and the acute yet long term problems of development. Successes were registered. Significant efforts were made by the industrialized countries on development issues. These were acknowledged and welcomed by our own populations and by the developing countries - more, I might add, in private than in public statements.

There were also disappointments. The industrialized countries were not encouraged by the rather cautious response of the developing world to new measures agreed to in the CIEC. Some regret accompanied the failure to agree on an ongoing energy consultation mechanism. The developing countries, for their part, regretted that results fell short of their aspirations for the structural changes necessary to the creation of a new economic order. Against these disappointments must be recorded the very real achievements of the Conference:

- A programme for energy cooperation and development which can serve as a framework for future international work. This programme includes specific measures to exploit the energy potential of the developing countries.
- Commitments for increases in the flows of development assistance, for a special action programme of assistance for particularly disadvantaged developing countries, and support for the African Infrastructure Development Decade.
- Agreement on the establishment of a Common Fund, and on willingness to begin negotiations on a new international grain arrangement.
- Other gains on a wide variety of fronts, from the International Emergency Grain Reserve, to the access developing countries have to capital markets.

Above all, I should like to stress that CIEC served to underline the persistence of the developing country demand for structural change in the international economic system. We can expect this demand to continue and intensify in the monetary, trade, and raw materials fields. It has become increasingly clear from recent important meetings, including the Downing Street Summit, that there is a clear perception of the need for strong cooperative efforts to meet this challenge.

We see increasing evidence of attitudes which acknowledge that change is taking place and must continue to do so. In our future work, however, I believe the message should be given to the developing countries that it would be a mistake to underestimate the difficulties facing the developed world. We have to muster public support in difficult economic circumstances for these