

Last month, my government announced the creation of Petro-Canada International, a subsidiary of our national oil company. Its purpose will be to assist oil-importing, developing countries to exploit their own energy resources, particularly hydrocarbons. This institution will be a new development assistance arm of the Canadian government, active in those areas offering geological or other resource potential which are not otherwise attractive to private investment. Many of these are found in the least-developed countries. These measures are but a part of a much larger effort Canada is undertaking in the energy field over the next decade.

In his opening statement to the Conference, President Mitterrand indicated support for an energy affiliate of the World Bank, which would involve both industrialized countries and the oil-exporting countries. Canada also favours the establishment of the proposed energy affiliate.

The third sector to which Canada attaches particular priority in the 1980s is the development of human resources. We enter this decade with a heightened understanding that financial and physical resources are by no means the most important tools of development. People are. The proper employment of financial and physical capital is predicated on the development of human resources. We have therefore decided to accord a higher priority to technical co-operation and other forms of investment in human resources development in our bilateral assistance activities. We are also exploring more flexible, innovative mechanisms for technical co-operation and the facilitation of the transfer of technology. We are convinced that the social benefits for both developed and developing countries in promoting cross-cultural understanding go beyond the economic benefits of technical co-operation and justify the high priority we give to this co-operation in Canada's aid programmes.

Canadian development activities are not limited to those of the government. The Canadian people and the private sector, particularly non-governmental organizations (NGOs), are involved in the development process. Today, the 84 member agencies of the Canadian Council for International Co-operation, representing several million Canadians, voluntarily contribute \$75 to \$100 million yearly for development work. Matching contributions from the Canadian International Development Agency and some Canadian provincial governments have a multiplier effect on contributions several times larger than this from non-governmental organizations. In many of the least-developed