

At the Paris Economic Summit, Canada agreed with other countries to coordinate assistance in support of reforms in Poland and Hungary. Canada's contribution to this effort is approximately \$72 million.

For underdeveloped countries, the burden of international debt is hindering economic development and so the Paris Club has now granted

concessional rescheduling to 15 lower-income countries.

During the year under review, progress was made in various trade policy areas such as industrial, agricultural, fisheries, and resource and commodity trade.

In addition, measures were taken to reduce traffic in narcotics and money laundering.

EXPORT TRADE DEVELOPMENT

The Department's chief objective in the area of export trade development was to support Canadian businesses in their efforts to develop and penetrate export markets. Also important was the acquisition of foreign investment and technology.

To this end, a great number of companies were supported through the Technology Inflow Program. Defence trade focussed on access to markets in the United States and Western Europe. "Going Global" was the umbrella program under which 60 business high-technology marketing activities were conducted.

In the area of agri-food, Canada was the fastest-growing exporter of processed food in the world. The Department increased its liaison efforts with

members of the agri-food industry in an effort to raise awareness of export potential.

During Canada Export Trade Month (October 1989), close to 6,000 meetings in 11 centres across Canada were held with exporters and potential exporters linking trade commissioners and commerce officers with business and industry. These meetings focussed on export market development. The World Information Network (WIN) database was established at all trade missions and provides an up-to-date list of more than 30,000 exporters. Posts abroad responded to over 116,000 trade enquiries from Canadian firms.

The Program for Export Market Development (PEMD) was the most