

ALL THE IMPROVEMENTS WILL REMAIN AND WILL BE CARRIED OUT, INCLUDING THE COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT FIRST, AND PARTICULARLY TO THE POOREST, AND PRIORITY PUT ON MAJOR THEMES SUCH AS HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ENVIRONMENT. CANADA WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO WORK ACTIVELY IN THIS ORGANIZATION TO ENCOURAGE IMPROVEMENT IN THE QUALITY OF OUR COLLECTIVE ASSISTANCE EFFORTS.

THE PROBLEMS OF DEBT AND DEVELOPMENT HAVE BEEN COMPOUNDED BY THE GROWING THREAT TO THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT.

FARMERS IN AFRICA CANNOT BE PRODUCTIVE WHEN DESERTIFICATION ROBBS THEM OF THEIR FIELDS, NO MORE SO THAN FARMERS IN BANGLADESH WHOSE HARVESTS ARE WASHED AWAY BY UNCONTROLLABLE FLOODS. THESE AND OTHER PROBLEMS SUCH AS DEFORESTATION WILL, IF LEFT UNCHECKED, LIMIT THE POTENTIAL OF DEVELOPING NATIONS AND HANDICAP THE PRODUCTIVITY OF DEVELOPED NATIONS.

BUT THE THREATS ARE NOT JUST TO THE DEVELOPING WORLD. WE ALL FACE THEM. ON CANADA'S ATLANTIC COAST OUR FISHING INDUSTRY IS IN JEOPARDY BECAUSE OF THE OVER-HARVESTING OF NORTH ATLANTIC FISH STOCKS. IN THE WATERS OFF OUR PACIFIC COAST THOUSANDS OF BIRDS AND ANIMALS PERISH EVERY YEAR, VICTIMS OF RAPACIOUS DRIFT NET FISHERMEN.