

In the decade or so since this paper was issued, certain of its recommendations regarding greater federal-provincial co-operation in overseas development have been implemented. Individual provinces have responded in varying degree to the proposals outlined in 1967 and 1968 and, though there have indeed been problems, the general attitude of both levels of government to co-operation in pursuing common goals of international assistance has been positive. Federal assistance to provincial councils concerned with international co-operation, provincial non-governmental organizations and provincial agricultural-aid ventures, through the Voluntary and Agricultural Development Aid Program (VADA), established in 1975, as well as the conclusion of individual federal-provincial agreements on projects and other co-operative-development matters, manifest themselves as milestones in this progress, encouraged by the policies outlined not only in the 1968 background paper but also in the 1970 set of pamphlets *Foreign Policy for Canadian* and the 1975-80 *Strategy for International Development Co-operation* (Point 21).

Still valid

The aims set out in these documents with regard to federal-provincial co-operation in dispensing external aid retain their validity, and recent discussions between federal and provincial officials suggest that the matter is receiving serious consideration. It has become increasingly clear that several provinces desire greater opportunity for participation in matters of international development. From the perspective of the Federal Government, external aid is seen as an integral part of foreign policy, and must therefore be retained under the authority of the Central Government. However, the effectiveness of Canada's aid policy and programs continues to depend in important respects on the co-operation of the provinces. New kinds of co-ordination and co-operation are under current consideration (for example, in VADA and with individual provinces). These changes would not only meet to some extent the growing interest of the provinces in taking part but would give CIDA an opportunity to involve them in the attempt to enlist the support of the people of Canada in responding to the rising economic expectations of the Third World. At the same time, the legitimate interests of the provinces can be encouraged in directions consistent with CIDA's priorities and co-ordinated development-planning processes.

Thus there exists considerable interest in, and scope for, continued co-operation between the Federal Government and provincial authorities in the field of international development. Although there are a number of areas in CIDA's current programs that involve federal-provincial interaction, it is fair to say that the full potential for involvement has not yet been reached. Organizationally, significant progress in

these directions appears to be developing as those CIDA activities that involve the provinces, as a consequence of a thorough review of the matter in 1977, no longer remain unco-ordinated, *ad hoc* and largely responsive in nature.

At present, federal-provincial contact-points involve a number of areas within CIDA. Primarily these are:

- the Policy Branch, which, through the Co-ordinator, Federal-Provincial Relations, has the responsibility for general co-ordination of activities involving the provinces;
- the Voluntary Agricultural Development Aid Program, under the Multilateral Branch;
- the Bilateral Programs Branch, which uses provincial government organizations as executing agencies;
- the Special Programs Branch, which works closely, through the Non-Governmental Organization Division, with certain provincial governments and provincial councils of international co-operation, in support of NGO endeavours, which it often finances. (Through the Industrial Co-operation Division, this branch also maintains contact with provincial governments in the development and management of its program of co-operation with business and industrial concerns in Canada and the Third World);
- the Resources Branch, which has entered into agreements with individual provinces in order to obtain the services of qualified individuals, consultants and experts in the context of CIDA projects abroad, and which arranges for the placing of students and trainees in support of several programs and projects;
- the Communications Branch, whose public information programs involve liaison with provincial governments, including departments of education, in order to bring the aid program closer to Canadians.

On the provincial side, the governments approach intergovernmental and international questions, including involvement in the aid program, in different ways. Alberta, Quebec and Ontario have established ministries of intergovernmental affairs and Saskatchewan will do so once current legislation is passed. Other provinces deal with these matters through secretariats or units established under the premier's authority. Because of VADA's agricultural basis, provincial departments of agriculture have long been involved and, in the case of Alberta, which makes some \$4 million a year available for non-governmental organizations engaged in development assistance, the Department of Culture bears a major responsibility in this field. Saskatchewan has this year, in its new Agricultural Development Corporation, also estab-