

Other improvements may be achieved if more of the minor decisions are made in the field, possibly through decentralizing from Ottawa the authority to approve small projects up to a certain ceiling of funds. Again, the forward commitment authority given to the Agency is an instrument of which more use must be made. Until very recently, the preoccupation in CIDA has been to plan the commitment of present funds; we can now advance a good distance beyond that point. Finally, as a result of the foreign policy review, CIDA gained many new kinds of flexibility, and we must take full advantage of them to speed up the delivery of our assistance.

(5) Awakening the interest and involvement of the Canadian people

Now I should turn away from a discussion of dollars and other figures. Since international development has its basis in the idea of a shared world, of solidarity among all people in the world, Canada's contribution should not only be a financial and technical one. It must also have a humanistic foundation. For it to possess such a foundation, the Canadian people should feel as personally involved as possible. This is a matter of building up a moral and long-lasting attitude, rather than conducting a short-term campaign to arouse support for particular projects or targets. We should all admit that this work until now has been done in a spotty and not very methodical way. To say that is not to underestimate the enthusiasm and bright ideas of those who have worked to tell Canadians about the issues of international development. There have been good starts (the Miles for Millions Walks are an example) but they are no more than starts.

There needs to be a much more concerted effort to involve the Canadian public. The people and the talents are clearly available. The growth in our development program overseas has generated among many Canadians a desire to participate more actively in international development. In this context, I should like to pay a particular word of praise to CUSO (Canadian University Service Overseas). CUSO represents one of the most dynamic initiatives that Canada has taken in the non-governmental sector. The tributes which it has earned from the leaders and people of the 40 or more countries around the world where 1200 of its workers are at present posted is a tribute to Canada herself. Beyond the work they do as employees of those governments and institutions abroad, they build a further link of interest and understanding between their families and friends in Canada and the countries in which they are serving. And, beyond CUSO, there are 100 other non-governmental agencies whose assistance to developing countries in funds raised and workers sent abroad has a value estimated at more than \$30 million a year. This is impressive evidence of public support for international development and for the Canadian Government's policies in this sphere.

I believe that we can and must respond directly and imaginatively to the growing requests for information and education programs. In doing so we shall help to create a more aware public, which is essential if we in Canada are to meet our responsibilities as an economically-privileged member of the world fraternity. In this the non-governmental agencies can play a significant role; reaching out into large and small communities across Canada, they can bring the cause of international development to Canadians in all walks of life.