

in the 1960s, La Francophonie was added to this framework. The multilateral connections between Canada and the African states forged in these various bodies had the natural result of causing us to develop our bilateral relations with the countries involved

Today our relations with Africa are perhaps entering a new phase. We must continue to support the three multilateral bodies I have mentioned. On the other hand, we cannot afford to regard the African states simply as emanations of some multilateral institutions of which we are both members.

The point I wish to make is that, in developing our policies, it is now essential for us to consider the particular needs, aspirations and circumstances of each of the African countries with which we have diplomatic relations. We are now more aware than previously of the necessity of balancing our relations with these countries by placing more emphasis on bilateral matters and looking at areas of mutual interest other than aid and technical co-operation. I'm thinking of general policy consultations, cultural affairs, and broader economic co-operation. This adjustment will require us to demonstrate both flexibility and imagination. In each case we shall be required to estimate both our own resources and the particular problems of the individual African country concerned. It is only in this way that we shall be better able to organize aid programs, to expand business relations and to promote successfully those policies (for example, in the environmental field and the law of the sea) that we Canadians regard as particularly important.

The furtherance of such bilateral relations is going to require more effort in Africa on our part than we have previously been able to make. But we must do this without in any way sacrificing the multilateral ties that have proved so valuable to Canada in the past and that we intend to continue to strengthen.

Obviously, a balance must be struck in the scale of priorities on both sides and, naturally, such a balance is, in fact, struck by the daily process of diplomatic activity. Canadian interests in Africa would hardly be enhanced if our Government were to allow our relations with the United States, Japan and Europe to deteriorate. In a very real sense, it is the very robust network of relations -- political, economic, technical and cultural -- that Canada has developed with other industrialized countries that gives us the means to cultivate a more substantial *rapprochement* with the emerging states of the world, in Africa as elsewhere. But I foresee nothing in the future that is likely to lessen the Canadian presence in Africa. On the contrary, all present indications are that we must continue to increase our activity in this