

suings the main objectives of its foreign policy in Africa.

First, we want to contribute effectively, with due regard to social justice, to the development of the African countries, particularly the most disadvantaged. The scale of our efforts in this area attest to the seriousness of our intent and the strength of our good will.

Secondly, we want to express our national identity on the world scene, especially in Africa, by developing and reinforcing our links with French-speaking countries, as well as with member countries of the Commonwealth.

Thirdly, we wish to establish lasting economic ties with the African countries, to our mutual advantage. We have complete confidence in the success of Africa's development, since that continent has enormous potential and we know that aid as a solution must gradually give place to the establishment of profitable trade relations, this being one aim of the North-South dialogue.

Fourthly, we want to do our part in maintaining peace and security in Africa, as we did in what was formerly the Congo, in Zimbabwe, in Uganda, and now in Namibia. Obviously, we do not wish to interfere in the internal affairs of other countries: we must above all respect the African nations' wish to provide their own solutions to the major conflicts still affecting some areas of the continent.

Fifthly, we want to contribute to improving the quality of life, especially where the environment is concerned. You may recall that the first Secretary-General of the United Nations Environment Program, which has its headquarters in Nairobi, was a Canadian, Maurice Strong.

How do these diverse objectives become reality? This question brings me to the subject of our operations, programs and activities in Africa, the successes we have achieved and the problems we face.

Almost half of Canadian bilateral aid grants are directed to Africa. At present, this represents a sum of more than \$300 million a year, and this amount will increase rapidly as we approach our objective of allocating 0.7 per cent of our gross national product to assisting Third World countries. To this figure must be added the amounts, difficult to compute, channelled to Africa through international agencies which we support financially, such as the United Nations Development Program, the World Food Program, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Food and Agriculture Organization, the World Bank, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, French-language institutions, Commonwealth institutions, and a multiplicity of Canadian and international non-governmental organizations.

Development aid is not merely a matter of transferring funds and technology. Well-
