

PRODUCES MORE THAN ENOUGH FOOD TO FEED ADEQUATELY ALL OF ITS PEOPLE AND THAT SOME DEVELOPED COUNTRIES NOW HAVE TO RESTRAIN FOOD PRODUCTION AS A MATTER OF POLICY TO AVOID THE DISINCENTIVE EFFECTS OF OVERSUPPLY. RECENT STUDIES HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THERE IS A LARGE TECHNICAL AND ECONOMIC POTENTIAL FOR INCREASING FOOD PRODUCTION IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OF THE WORLD, AND THAT THE LINES OF REQUIRED DEVELOPMENT FOR THE REALIZATION OF THIS POTENTIAL ARE REASONABLY WELL UNDERSTOOD. YET THE BASIC OBJECTIVES OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE OF ALMOST A DECADE AGO APPEAR NO CLOSER TO REALIZATION TODAY - THEY WERE TO: INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION IN COUNTRIES WHERE IT IS MOST NEEDED; BROADEN THE EFFECTIVE DISTRIBUTION OF FOOD THROUGH MEASURES FOR IMPROVING TRADE, CONSUMPTION AND NUTRITION; AND BUILD A BETTER FOOD SECURITY SYSTEM TO AVOID THE DISRUPTIVELY WIDE PRICE SWINGS OF 1972-74.

CANADA BELIEVES THAT THE ESSENTIAL DECISIONS FOR ALLEVIATING HUNGER AND MALNUTRITION IN THE WORLD ARE PRIMARILY POLITICAL AND ONLY SECONDARILY RELATED TO NATURAL RESOURCE AND ECONOMIC OR TECHNICAL FACTORS. THERE ARE NO INSURMOUNTABLE PHYSICAL OR TECHNOLOGICAL CONSTRAINTS TO THE EXPANSION OF WORLD FOOD SUPPLY TO MEET THE LIKELY GROWTH IN POPULATIONS OVER THE NEXT THREE OR FOUR DECADES. HOWEVER, IT IS ONLY WITH SPECIAL EFFORTS ON THE PART OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THEMSELVES TO INCREASE THEIR FOOD PRODUCTION, SUPPORTED BY MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS AND BILATERAL AID PROGRAMS THAT THE RATE OF INCREASE IN THE PRODUCTION OF FOOD CAN REALIZE THESE PHYSICAL POTENTIALS AND BE ADEQUATE TO MEET WORLD DEMAND. AT THE SAME TIME, THE GOVERNMENT IS ACTIVELY SUPPORTING EFFORTS TO INCREASE CANADA'S DOMESTIC PRODUCTION TO BETTER MEET THE NEEDS OF THOSE 500 MILLION