

Canada also envisages a meaningful role for a revitalised Social Development Commission in the followup to the Social Summit. We think there is room for a policy oriented body to shed further light on how to attain the agreed goals. Accordingly, at its special session, the Commission should give the highest priority to the formulation of a multi-year thematic work programme which reflects the Copenhagen framework. This work programme should recognize the important interrelationships between the core themes of the summit: poverty, employment and social integration. The Commission should also:

- Adapt its mandate in order to ensure an integrated approach to social development
- Integrate the current sectoral issues on its agenda into the multi-year thematic programme of work
- Review and up-date its methods of work
- Seek creative ways of involving in its work independent experts and representatives of civil society.

We also continue to see an important role for ECOSOC in harmonizing the work programmes of this commission with others, as well as in providing policy coordination.

Mr. President:

The Social Summit drew important commitments from us all. It provides a basis for restoring social concerns to the heart of economic policy formulation. Through, for example, the idea of 20/20 compacts it set out concrete ideas of how to direct more resources to poverty reduction and related objectives. In this respect, Canada has undertaken to provide 25 per cent of its ODA to meeting basic needs.

The 20/20 commitment is one example of how the Summit creatively envisaged constructive partnerships. We look forward to working closely with others to identify other creative ways for encouraging the implementation of the Summit outcomes. In so doing we will be mindful of the broader requirement for us all: to give substance to the undertaking made at Copenhagen -- to put people first.