
It is no easy task to comprehend or pursue the variety of issues included in this multidimensional approach to development -- particularly as it includes energy, as well as trade, aid and finance in the context of the forthcoming Paris conference. These issues and their interrelations are not well understood by all Canadians interested in them. Realizing that, we have thought it important to organize consultations with interested representatives of the private sector -- including representatives of labour, agriculture, industry, the churches and voluntary associations. Two such consultations have now been held, and we expect to continue this practice.

This practice puts the issues before interested Canadians and enables them, through their organizations, to discuss them with a broad cross-section of Canadians, who may draw their own conclusions as to the costs and benefits for Canada. A number of the organizations involved receive financial support from CIDA, which assists them in holding seminars and meetings across the country. We seek by this means to engage the interest and support of Canadians in all walks of life. We recognize that, in times of inflation and unemployment, this may not be an easy task.

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