



CANADA

STATEMENTS AND SPEECHES

INFORMATION DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

No. 66/28 CONDITIONS FOR PEACE IN AFRICA AND THE WORLD

Notes Used by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, at the Consultation "Focus on Africa" Sponsored by the Canadian Council of Churches, Queen's University, Kingston, June 17, 1966.

I should like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the invitation to speak during your conference. It is a pleasure to meet again with representatives of the churches and others interested in Africa. We have many mutual interests in this and other aspects of international affairs.

I thought that, in view of the detailed study in which you have already engaged of various facets of Canadian interests in Africa, I might best contribute by providing a general account of Government policy in the field of economic assistance in Africa and elsewhere. Questions of economic aid and of trade are very important, of course, in our relations with African nations. I should also like to comment on particular political problems in Africa. In both cases, I should like to suggest some of the conditions required for peaceful and mutually profitable relations between nations in various areas of the world.

General Policy - Economic Assistance

In November 1963, the Government decided to embark on a phased expansion of its economic assistance programmes over a period of three years. It decided to make substantial quantitative and qualitative improvements which would enable Canada to assist the developing countries more effectively.

In the current fiscal year, appropriations for economic assistance will come close to \$300 million. In the last four years approximately, our appropriations have almost tripled. I am glad to confirm the Government's intention to continue making substantial increases in aid allocations. We are working towards levels of aid activity which will enable us to play our full part in the development effort while taking fully into account:

- (a) the recommendations of competent international organizations;
- (b) our own special position as a net importer of capital; and
- (c) the need to develop programmes which will be of a type and of a quality that will most effectively assist development in the nations concerned.