

Canada Weekly

ACL

LA: C18
July 177
REF C1

Volume 5, No. 28

July 13, 1977



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Mr. Jamieson urges integration of developing nations into world economic system

The ministerial meeting of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Council, held in Paris on June 23 and 24, was the first opportunity for member countries to discuss the results of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation (CIEC), which was also held in Paris from May 30 to June 2.

Addressing the OECD Council on June 23, Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, described the achievements — and the disappointments — of the CIEC meeting, spoke of the "imperative" need to plan for the future, and urged the OECD countries "to maintain and increase the momentum of developing countries' integration in the international economic system." Passages from Mr. Jamieson's speech follow:

...The Conference on International Economic Co-operation (CIEC) grappled with two of the major challenges facing mankind — the energy question, and the acute yet long-term problems of development. Successes were registered. Significant efforts were made by the industrialized countries on development issues. These were acknowledged and welcomed by our own populations and by the developing countries — more, I might add, in private than in public statements.

Disappointments

There were also disappointments. The industrialized countries were not encouraged by the rather cautious response of the developing world to new measures agreed to in the CIEC. Some regret accompanied the failure to agree on an ongoing energy-consultation mechanism. The developing countries, for their part, regretted that results fell short of their aspirations for the structural changes necessary to the creation of a new economic order.

Achievements

Against these disappointments must be recorded the very real achievements of the Conference:

- A program for energy co-operation and development which can serve as a framework for future international work. This program includes specific measures to exploit the energy potential of the developing countries.
- Commitments for increases in the flows of development assistance, for a

special action program of assistance for particularly disadvantaged developing countries, and support for the African Infrastructure Development Decade.

- Agreement on the establishment of a Common Fund, and on willingness to begin negotiations on a new international grain arrangement.

- Other gains on a wide variety of fronts, from the International Emergency Grain Reserve, to the access developing countries have to capital markets.

Above all, I should like to stress that CIEC served to underline the persistence of the developing-country demand for structural change in the international economic system. We can expect this demand to continue and intensify in the monetary, trade, and raw materials fields. It has become increasingly clear from recent important meetings, including the Downing Street Summit, that there is a clear perception of the need for strong co-operative efforts to meet this challenge.

We see increasing evidence of attitudes which acknowledge that change is taking place and must continue to do so. In our future work, however, I believe the message should be given to the developing countries that it would be a mistake to underestimate the difficulties facing the developed world. We have to muster public support in difficult economic circumstances for these changes which will, by their nature, impose additional burdens on our people. I must further underline that all countries have a common interest

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