residing in the TCI at any one time). Some 134 visitors from the Islands came to Canada in 1988, while two Islanders received landed immigrant status in 1987.

There is some Canadian investment in the Islands, primarily in real estate development and in the tourist and energy sectors.

Additional background information on the Islands is available in Appendix 7: History, Turks and Caicos: Newest Growth Centre, Safety British; Appendix 8: "Nautilus Villas". Shearwater Bay Limited; Appendix 9: Selected Bibliography on the Turks and Caicos Islands; and Appendix 10: Basic Country Data: Turks and Caicos Islands.

III. PROMOTION OF CANADIAN TRADE AND INVESTMENT

Promotion of Canadian trade and investment with the Turks and Caicos Islands is the responsibility of the Canadian High Commission in Kingston Jamaica, which has only one commercial officer to cover its four countries of accreditation (Jamaica, Belize, Bahamas and TCI). Reliable, relevant and up to-date information on the TCI is not readily available from published sources. For example, the latest official statistics on the Turks and Caicos Islands were prepared in March 1987 and covered 1985 and 1986. The lack of official data means that a variety of sources must be monitored and press reports and rumours doubled checked. As a result, Canadian firms, institutions and individuals do not consistently receive the information they require to make management decisions on the allocation of their scarce resources in pursuit of commercial opportunities.

Information collected as a result of my visit to the TCI indicates that the economy is changing at a rapid rate. Growth rates in tourism have generally exceeded those of many other Caribbean countries in the past twenty years. Finally, since the TCI is a British dependency the Islands do not have their own representatives in Canada and tend not to be as active in regional institutions as many other Caribbean states. This makes the collection of information on TCI even more difficult. Unless Canada devotes more attention and resources to the territory covered by our post in Jamaica, the Canadian private sector cannot hope to compete effectively with other suppliers of investment capital, goods and services.

Recommendation 1

The Department of External Affairs should add a commercial officer to the staff of the Canadian High Commission in Kingston. This officer's time and resources should be devoted to improving trade and investment with the Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands and Belize.