

This visit to Africa also provides me with an opportunity to renew Canada's commitment to share her wealth with developing countries and to adapt her international development policy to the changing needs of developing countries. In this respect, Nigeria has set a remarkable example for us. Your government, Mr. Commissioner, has sought to use its new-found wealth for the social and economic betterment of your people; but you have also accepted in a wholly admirable way to share some of that wealth with other countries. I would like to pay tribute to the spirit of international co-operation that has inspired your recent contributions to the African Development Bank, to the International Monetary Fund Oil Facility for Developing Countries and the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation.

It is in the same spirit that Canada will try to adapt its own international development co-operation to the new priorities set out by your government, in the Third National Development Plan recently launched by His Excellency General Gowon. We hope to contribute to the implementation of this plan. We will look carefully at the priorities set out in it and ensure that the new guidelines which we are now preparing for the Canadian International Development Agency will be in harmony with Nigerian priorities. We also took good note, during our meetings of the fact that Nigeria now needs essentially skilled manpower and technical training to accelerate her development; and I assure you that Canada's response will be a positive one.

I know, in particular, that your government attaches the utmost importance to the Universal Primary Education Programme. We hope to be of some assistance in the planning of this ambitious endeavour, if only because some of our own Canadian provinces have accumulated considerable expertise in this field through the planned expansion of their own education systems in recent years.

Your Excellency, distinguished guests, I invite you to raise your glass to the health of the Nigerian Head of State, His Excellency General Gowon, to the prosperity of the Nigerian people, to the future of Nigeria, and to still closer and friendly relations between our two countries.