

areas for the Global Negotiations although it is too soon to predict the practical significance of this. It will be very difficult indeed for the Group of 77 to agree on a coherent policy in relation to energy. But having the item on the agenda is a step forward.

The Soviet Invasion of Afghanistan

The Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was condemned by the overwhelming majority of the Group of 77. Since then, the U.S.S.R. has seen a significant erosion in the previous, frequent support it received from many Third World countries in the political committees of the U.N., for example, in the Commission on Human Rights and in the Disarmament Committee. As well, the credibility of Cuba within the Non-aligned Movement and the Group of 77 was undercut just when it had become chairman of the Non-aligned Movement. We might anticipate that the Third World countries will now show less tolerance for the sometimes cynical role played by the U.S.S.R. in U.N. North-South debates and for the very limited contribution the Eastern European countries have made to meet the development needs of poor countries.

But, I do not expect the Third World countries to lessen their commitment to non-alignment by moving towards the West. The most we can hope for is a little more objectivity in their assessment of Western proposals in North-South meetings. Perhaps non-alignment can regain some of the meaning it lost in Havana. Of course, we in the developed world must stretch ourselves to make concrete offers that have a real interest to the Third World; otherwise there is a danger these countries, disenchanted with both East and West, may focus increasingly on South-South issues and prove even harder than before to persuade that global problems deserve global attention.

The Brandt Report

The Brandt Report is the third new element in our brew. Canada welcomes the report as a very useful contribution to the dialogue. We, like most governments, are studying it carefully. My impression is that it and the proposed emergency programme in particular, will prove useful as a frame of reference in the forthcoming Global Negotiations. The emergency programme has four principal elements: a large-scale transfer of resources to developing countries; an international energy strategy; a global food programme; and a start on some major reforms in