

immigrant status in 1982. Though overall immigration will be lower, Mr. Roberts says Canada will maintain its commitments to accept and assist refugees and to reunite eligible family members at the same levels as in 1983. Canada is taking in 12 000 refugees this year — half of them from Southeast Asia and from Europe — and will do the same in 1984.

So-called family-class landings — a category that describes immigrants coming to join family members already in Canada — are expected to continue at around 50 000 a year through 1986, the report says. This figure has been relatively steady for several years.

Federal authorities also want to attract more "business immigrants", or people who bring with them money to invest in businesses that create jobs. The benefits from such immigration are significant.

In 1982, for example, these immigrants accounted for only 3 per cent of total immigration but brought with them \$718 million, which was 40 per cent of the funds brought by all the immigrants into the country. They created at least 4 200 jobs for Canadians, the report says.

The report notes that Central American regions such as Nicaragua are generating more refugees, while other countries such as El Salvador and Chile continue to increase the number of displaced people. Canada is raising its limit by 500 to 2 500 for the number it accepts from Central America in 1984.

## EDC supports sales to Jamaica

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has signed two loan agreements totalling \$13.5 million (US) to support Canadian export sales to Jamaica.

The first is a \$7.5-million (US) agreement under which EDC and a consortium of banks will support the engineering, manufacturing, installation and testing of switching equipment by Northern Telecom International Limited of Mississauga, Ontario and Mitel Corporation of Kanata, Ontario to the Jamaica Telephone Company Ltd. for the further expansion and modernization of the Jamaican telephone system.

The second is a \$6-million (US) agreement under which EDC and two banks — The Bank of Nova Scotia and Bank of America Canada — will support a sale of electrical distribution equipment by Montreal Engineering Company Limited of Montreal to Jamaica Public Service Company Limited of Kingston, Jamaica.

## Canada-Mexico ministerial and business meetings



*CIDA president Margaret Catley-Carlson (left), CALA chairman Scott McDonald and CALA president Marie-Nicole Tempesta discuss investment opportunities with CIDA's Mexican guests at the opening luncheon of the Canada-Mexico business forum in Ottawa.*

Representatives of the government of Mexico and of that country's business sector were in Ottawa November 1-2 to take part in two major meetings designed to discuss areas of mutual concern.

The fifth Canada-Mexico Joint Ministerial Committee brought together senior government ministers from both countries. The Canadian delegation, headed by Deputy Prime Minister and Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan J. MacEachen, included Canadian ministers of Energy, Mines and Resources, of Agriculture and of State (International Trade) who met with their Mexican counterparts.

The ministers met for two days of discussions during which they renewed the arrangement for the supply and purchase of agriculture commodities and reviewed a wide range of bilateral and multilateral issues of mutual concern. These included regional and hemispheric political developments, the international economic and financial situation, and energy, trade and agri-food questions.

Sponsored by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and organized by the Canadian Association — Latin America and Caribbean (CALA), with the assistance of the Association of Consulting Engineers of Canada (ACEC), the Canada-Mexico Business Forum was held in conjunction with the ministerial meetings.

At the opening luncheon, keynote speaker Margaret Catley-Carlson, CIDA president noted:

"This conference, one of CIDA's many industrial co-operation initiatives with Mexico, is intended to foster long-term business relationships between our private sectors; and our program of \$2.2 million incentives to Canadian business in Mexico

over the last three years has resulted in some outstanding opportunities being, or having been, considered.

"Over 130 Canadians met with Mexicans interested in new enterprises and together they have prepared pre-investment reports for opportunities in: — agricultural machinery, swine breeding, cattle feed, meat processing; — industrial cleaning, hand tools, marine engines, gears, trucks and trailers; — laboratory furniture, building blocks, kaolin, water treatment; and — radio-telephones, high-voltage cleaning, transit systems and mining."

Minister of State (International Trade) Gerald Regan, who addressed the opening session of the Canada-Mexico Businessmen's Forum, noted that Canada had chosen Mexico as a priority area for the development of Canadian relations abroad and as a market "where we wish to see increased bilateral trade and economic co-operation".

"I am particularly pleased to see the enormous growth in two-way trade between our countries," Mr. Regan said. "Our export performance to Mexico has shown large gains and, since 1968, we have seen exports rise from \$55 million a year to a high of \$715 million in 1981. Mexican sales have also grown by leaps and bounds, led of course by oil purchases, and they now stand at only slightly less than \$1 billion a year. But even discounting oil purchases, Mexican sales in Canada are growing and Mexico is becoming an increasingly important supplier of agricultural goods and an expanding range of manufactured goods. Last year, non-oil imports from Mexico were valued at \$244 million, compared to total imports of \$52 million in 1968."