

CENTRAL ROLE WHICH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS MUST PLAY IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY FOR THE 1990s.

SO, WHAT KIND OF WORLD DO WE SEE IN THE DECADE AHEAD? WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES WHICH WE MUST MEET TOGETHER? OF COURSE, NO ONE CAN TRULY SEE THE FUTURE. BUT SOME OF THE FEATURES OF THE YEAR 2000 ARE SURELY CLEAR ENOUGH.

WE KNOW, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT THE POPULATION OF THE WORLD WILL INCREASE BY ONE BILLION PEOPLE DURING THE 1990'S, MOSTLY IN THE POORER COUNTRIES OF THE SOUTH. THIS WILL MEAN ACCELERATED INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION WORLDWIDE AND INCREASED ENERGY CONSUMPTION.

BY THE YEAR 2000, ASIA-PACIFIC WILL ACCOUNT FOR 60% OF THE WORLD'S POPULATION, 50% OF PRODUCTION AND 40% OF CONSUMPTION -- WITH TRANS-PACIFIC TRADE REACHING AS HIGH AS \$500 BILLION.

COMPETITION WILL INCREASINGLY BE CARRIED OUT ON A GLOBAL SCALE BY GLOBAL COMPANIES, WITH SMALLER COMPANIES SEEKING THEIR OWN NICHE MARKETS.