

January 21 to February 8, 1980. Unfortunately, however, for the first time a major North-South conference was not able to reach a consensus conclusion. The New Delhi Declaration and Plan of Action presented by developing countries to promote their industrial development was adopted, but without the support of Western and Socialist countries on key issues, including the establishment of a \$300 billion North-South global fund for industrialization. In the view of most industrialized countries, the negotiating positions of the developing countries which derived from a preliminary ministerial meeting in Havana were radicalized; also, hardline, extraneous political issues were introduced and technical matters politicized. Attempts to direct UNIDO toward a more realistic and pragmatic plan of action for the improvement of the industrial capacity of developing countries proved unsuccessful.

Industrial co-operation

As a result of initiatives taken by the department in the mid-1970s, programs of industrial co-operation with developing countries have become firmly established as part of Canada's international commercial relations and development assistance programs. During 1980, discussions took place with Brazil, Mexico, and the countries of ASEAN on the means by which co-operation in industrial sectors by private enterprise on both sides could be facilitated. In the context of the government's North-South objectives, attention is being paid to the desirability and necessity of increased private sector participation in securing the transfer of investment and know-how and to the ability on the part of developing countries to absorb and utilize them.

Activities of multinational enterprises

Developing countries consistently argue that the activities of multinational enterprises have a significant effect on their efforts to achieve self-reliant development and as such should be included in the dialogue on North-South issues. While Canada, as a major host country, does not view the questions raised by the activities of multinational enterprises as being exclusively a North-South issue, it does share some developing country concerns, for example, on foreign investment. Canada continues to participate actively in multilateral consideration of these questions, notably the UN negotiations on a code of conduct for transnational corporations, now in their final stages.

Transfer of technology

Transfer of technology in the North-South context centres on the acquisition by the developing countries of commercial technology and know-how on preferential terms. Developing countries have called into question the existing system of accepted international business, legal and investment practices and procedures. They are also urging the developed countries to increase their research and development capacity in order to solve the pressing problems faced by the Third World.

A series of multilateral negotiations in various areas of international technology transfer was conducted in 1980. Work

continued on the code of conduct for the transfer of technology which is being elaborated in UNCTAD. The *Paris convention on intellectual property* was in the process of revision in the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) for the purpose of allowing freer flow of technology among all parties. The new UN Intergovernmental Committee on Science and Technology for Development (ICSTED) was established to provide a better co-ordinating mechanism within the UN. Success was achieved in regard to guidelines for the control of restrictive business practices which were negotiated at UNCTAD and adopted at the thirty fifth session of the UN General Assembly. These voluntary guidelines should contribute to improved control, particularly in developing countries that do not have comprehensive national legislation on competition matters, over abuses resulting from restricting business practices of both private and state-owned multinational enterprises.

Canada has participated actively in all these negotiations and has in general supported efforts to improve access to technology by the developing countries on the basis of mutually acceptable and universal standards of conduct. Our efforts in multilateral forums and bilateral programs have been directed towards the creation of a more predictable and stable environment for the effective transfer of technological capacity and know-how.

International monetary and financial issues

Canada continued to participate actively in the IMF and supported the Fund's examination of ways by which, while pursuing its basic objectives, it could adapt further its operations and facilities to respond to the pressing needs of the developing countries. The IMF executive board conducted an extensive examination of a program of action for a reform of the international monetary system put forward by the "Group of 24" in the name of the developing countries. In 1980, the IMF took a number of effective measures in order to be in position to lend larger amounts for longer periods of time, and under flexible conditions, to those of its members which were facing balance-of-payments difficulties. The IMF is taking positive action to match the enlargement of borrowing by an increase in its resources in order to maintain the Fund's liquidity and to enhance recycling. For 1980-81, Canada holds the chairmanship of the "Group of 10" which serves as a caucus of the industrialized countries in the IMF and deals with the general arrangements to borrow.

Eleventh special session of the United Nations General Assembly

In 1977, the UN General Assembly decided to convene a special session in August/September 1980 to assess progress in establishing the new international economic order and, as part of this effort, to adopt the new IDS for the 1980s. In 1979, the special session's agenda was broadened to encompass the launching of a proposed new round of global negotiations on international economic co-operation for development concerning issues in five areas: raw materials, trade, energy, development, and money and finance.