

A recent study indicates that some 98 per cent of all of the world's research and development expenditures continues to be made in the wealthy, industrialized nations, which already have high growth-rates. There is almost as much money spent on research and development in the less-developed world. The scientific advances and the new technologies which will shape tomorrow's world will come out of today's research and development expenditures. The relative position of the less-developed nations can only worsen if the balance in the deployment of the world's scientific and technological resources remains so heavily biased against them.

It is not likely that this bias will be rectified except by a deliberate act of policy on the part of the industrialized nations, which possess a near monopoly on the world's scientific and technological resources. A larger share of these resources must be made available to the less-developed nations. One of the most practical methods of doing this is by devoting a portion of the funds available from wealthier nations under their development aid programs to this purpose....

CANADIAN INITIATIVE

This is an area in which Canada can play an important role and it is for this purpose that we propose to establish the International Development Research Centre of Canada. This bill results from two years of careful investigation and planning by the Canadian International Development Agency with the active assistance and participation of a number of other government departments and experts outside government, particularly the Canadian universities and a number of international institutions. A great deal of care has been taken to design an instrument that will complement and supplement the work that is being carried on by others in this field. I can assure the House that Canada's initiative in creating this body is welcomed by the entire international development community.

The Centre will be basically a Canadian institution, with an important international dimension. The chairman and most of the members of the Centre's board of governors are to be Canadian, as well as the majority of its executive committee. Both the board and the staff will include specially-qualified people from various parts of the world, including the developing countries. The Centre will be structured so as to provide the best possible environment for creativity and problem-solving.

WORK OF ORGANIZATION

The Centre will identify, initiate and encourage, support and undertake research into the problems involved in the development of economically-deprived regions of the world. It will seek to develop the most effective application of the results of this research to the needs of the people of those regions. It will give high priority to programs that help the de-

veloping countries to build their own scientific and technological capabilities so that they will not be mere welfare recipients but contributors in their own right to the solution of their own problems.

I have said that the Centre will be "problem-oriented". A small expert headquarters group will identify specific development problems and develop programs designed to focus resources upon them. In the development and implementation of its programs, the Centre would work closely with other government departments and non-governmental institutions, particularly Canadian universities and industry. A typical project might consist of a number of programs carried out on a decentralized basis by institutions and individuals chosen for their specific capacity. The Centre will also be able to provide financial support to specific research activities of other institutions that contribute directly to its own programs and objectives....

After a project has been undertaken, the function of the headquarters group will be to oversee the programs and to audit and disseminate their results. Discussions with the OECD Development Centre, the United Nations and some of the United Nations Specialized Agencies indicate that the Centre's headquarters might also provide a centralized system for assimilating, storing, retrieving and disseminating scientific and technical data relevant to international development. In this way, the Centre would help provide an important and, at present, missing link in the co-ordination of world international development programs....

BENEFITS TO CANADA

We should not overlook the important benefits the Centre will bring to Canada. The funds provided for its support will be an addition to the funds normally available for Canadian research and development. It will create new opportunities for the use of Canadian human and institutional resources in the field of science and technology. It will help to attract to Canada highly-qualified people in various fields, including Canadians who have had to leave Canada to pursue their special interests. It will also help to keep in Canada some who might otherwise leave.

In all its programs, the Centre will provide important links between Canadian and foreign science and technology, enabling Canadian specialists to obtain international experience which could make a valuable contribution to our own development.

FINANCING

The funds needed to finance the Centre's operations and programs will come out of Canada's international development-assistance allocations. Within these allocations, the amount of funds made available to the Centre will depend upon the specific programs and activities which are developed by the Centre's board and management after it is established. The Government intends to give priority to this aspect of