arguing that the world's economic structures work inherently to their perpetual disadvantage. The process which is required to redress their grievances involves the sharing of power, not power in the classical sense of armies and empires but in the sense of access to the means of development. Gaining that kind of power means gaining access to the international institutions where the decision-making process should take greater account of developing countries' specific difficulties: access to international capital markets, greater security in commodity prices and access to technological skills and to markets for manufactured products.

Other specific and urgent needs will require the concentrated attention of governments as well. Energy and agriculture are priorities because of the severity of the impact of energy costs on oil-importing developing countries and because of the danger of food production not being able to keep up with population growth.

I do not expect a sudden breakthrough toward solutions in the series of important international meetings scheduled for the coming months, but I do expect a better political focus on the major priorities. I do not expect that the world's sense of crisis will be entirely eased by whatever collective response we make to the problems of development; but I do think that the basic economic causes of instability in the Third World can be successfully attacked through a co-operative international management effort.

I have spoken of Canada's role and purposes in world affairs. I have spoken particularly of the compelling need for progress in North-South relations. I have placed the issues involved in the context of the need for the international community to mobilize itself to manage crises more effectively. The summit meeting in Ottawa in July will have a particular importance in determining our collective ability to deal with the problems I have described.

• (1550)

Those are the issues that I wanted to discuss in the consultations I have undertaken in the last several months with the leaders of some key developing countries. I considered it important that the views of major nations such as Brazil, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Nigeria and others I have visited, be taken into account by the summit leaders. I am very conscious of the Canadian role and interest in these matters. Canada alone cannot come up with viable solutions. But we can contribute to them. Moreover, we need to strengthen relationships with a variety of countries whose interests in economic development correspond to our own. These include the countries I have visited.

For Canadians, the state of the world is of deep importance, and not least because a healthy international environment is vital to Canadian economic growth. We need stronger economic links not only with developing countries but also with our summit partners. Fundamentally, it is these economic partnerships which will stimulate the pace of development, both here and abroad.

North-South Relations

I have not covered all aspects of our foreign policy, Madam Speaker. Many other vital Canadian concerns will be addressed by my colleague, the Secretary of State for External Affairs (Mr. McGuigan), later in this debate and by other members sitting on this side of the chamber. I have sought to focus the attention of the House on those areas of crisis and of opportunity where the most basic interests of our people, as human beings and as Canadians, are at stake. I have done so with confidence that Canada will rise to the challenge of our times, and in so doing will contribute to justice, stability and peace in this still wonderful world.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Miss Flora MacDonald (Kingston and the Islands): Madam Speaker, I am very pleased today to be able to take part in this critical and important debate, and I say to the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) at the outset that I appreciate his sharing with us the plans and preparations for the summit meeting to be held next month. I listened with care to his discussion of the management of crises and the management of change and how they apply to both East-West and North-South relations. I had hoped, however, that perhaps he would have been more specific in dealing with the responses that Canada would offer to certain of those crises which now confront us, and as a result I shall be raising questions which I feel have not been adequately dealt with.

As we try, Mr. Speaker, to grapple with the broad sweep of Canada's relations with other states, it is striking that this government has provided no comprehensive statement of policy to give direction to or to increase the understanding of Canadians. As welcome as this debate, no single speech or series of speeches can substitute for the evaluation in a comprehensive way of what our foreign policy is.

The last white paper on defence was exactly ten years ago. Indeed, the last comprehensive review of foreign policy was more than ten years ago and it is now entirely irrelevant to the conditions of international politics. The last aid strategy paper was for the years 1975 to 1980, and in the absence of any successor document must we assume that there is no strategy for aid for 1980 to 1985?

I am therefore delighted, Sir, to see that one of the recommendations of the North-South task force is that the government carry out, and I quote:

-comprehensive evaluations of the impact of its policies on developing countries.

Now, I would say, Sir, that we should go further than that and suggest that we also require a comprehensive evaluation of the over-all direction of our foreign policy, the kind of evaluation we have not had in the past ten years. That evaluation, when completed, should be submitted for debate to the Canadian Parliament.

Let us be clear what the central issue before us is. We have entered into a decade which will be marked by great transformations in international politics and in our foreign policy. I would like to think that, with the decade of the 1970s behind