

As broader objectives, Canada plans to stimulate dialogue on strengthening the OAS political and security mandate in the new security environment of the post-Cold War period, and on developing a priority agenda for OAS activities in the 1990's.

VI. THE STRATEGY FOR LATIN AMERICA: FUTURE ACTIVITIES

Since the new strategy for Latin America was approved by Cabinet in October 1989, the rationale for moving closer to Latin America has become more compelling. The prospect of trilateral free trade talks with Mexico has rekindled Canadian private sector interest in that country, spilling over to other parts of Latin America. In 1990, Canadian exports have increased significantly to those key trading partners experiencing economic recovery - Chile, Mexico, Venezuela and Colombia. Prospects are improving in more and more countries in the region, as economic conditions improve and more liberalized trading regimes become established. These developments will be complemented by a series of bilateral agreements to encourage trade and investment, for example, Double Taxation Agreements and Foreign Investment Protection Agreements.

These developments underline the need for Canada to continue to accord a high priority to Latin America, while devoting greater attention to trade policies and promotion. As complementary activities to those in the OAS forum, Canada will continue to expand trade relations with the most promising Latin American markets, engage more fully in the "Enterprise for the Americas" initiative, promote high level political dialogue with key partners, enhance cultural/academic relations, and examine the effectiveness of existing security arrangements in light of changes in global strategic patterns.

Canada will also continue to strengthen relations with its traditional friends in the Caribbean, and has found that the OAS is a useful forum for that purpose. At the Commonwealth Caribbean-Canada Heads of Government Meeting in Barbados on March 19-20, 1990, Prime Minister Mulroney reaffirmed Canada's deep commitment to this special relationship.

VII. CONCLUSION

This report on Canada's first year in the OAS has been designed to explain to Parliament and the public what Canada has achieved to date as a full member of that organization. It has done so by recounting why we joined as part of a new strategy for Latin America; what we hoped to accomplish; what we have