

Mexico and Canada acknowledge that their views, criteria and interests in foreign policy are not identical. At the same time, the two countries realize that they have a shared vision on a significant number of the major problems on the international agenda. This shared vision provides an incentive to expand even further the bilateral relationship.

A degree of *complementarity* is evident in several areas - trade, demographics, science and technology, agriculture, and industry. At the international level, Canada benefits from its partnership with Mexico as it broadens its involvement in the Latin American market, while Mexico expands its relations with countries in the British Commonwealth, especially the English-speaking Caribbean states.

Based on the above, Mexico and Canada wish to inject a greater dynamism and depth into their relationship. In doing so, they hope to take full advantage of the potential of both countries for the benefit of their respective peoples and in order to make a significant contribution toward the promotion of world peace and international justice.

Conscious of the need to identify specific steps that will further consolidate the bilateral relationship, Canada and Mexico agreed at the eleventh meeting of the Mexico-Canada Ministerial Commission (27 April 1995), to create a mechanism to direct and promote the development of all aspects of the bilateral relationship. The Mexico-Canada Bilateral Steering Committee consists of representatives from both government and the private sector (business, academic, social and cultural).

Following consultations in both countries, the Steering Committee identified the following general objectives, which both parties have agreed to implement over the course of the next several years.