

The dialogue on issues of mutual interest is now well engaged. The OECD, in its work, is taking greater account of the conditions and policies of Korea, Singapore, Hong Kong and other economies of the region. Workshops will be established to pursue discussions in specific policy areas. This effort at enhancing cooperation and further integrating these countries into the international economic system must be applauded.

We have seen the success stories among the newly industrialized economies and the lessons that can be learned. We have seen that this success did not come easily, but rather in the face of often considerable difficulties. And we have recognized that we need to have an open constructive dialogue with these important economies. Clearly, therefore, our very successful first effort should be followed up systematically.

The seminar and the workshops must be the starting point in a dynamic process, and not be allowed to become isolated events.

I believe that we can also extend our outreach to other areas, such as Eastern Europe, though in different forms. The OECD is well placed to undertake coordination of further analytical work on economic development in this area.

In particular, we believe that the OECD should respond positively and constructively to requests from CMEA countries for analysis of their economies and technical advice to bolster economic efficiency and reform.

In this broad dimension of our work, we can learn much from one another, and from non-members. We need to remain open to new ideas and new structures.

In our outreach activities, as in our work on development and on the environment, therefore, flexibility innovation and imagination must be our watchwords as we look to the challenge and opportunities of the 1990's.