

AN EFFECT ON YOUR INDUSTRY AND THE ACTIONS OF PRODUCERS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE MUST TAKE THESE EVENTS AND THEIR IMPACT ON YOUR INDUSTRY INTO ACCOUNT IN DEVELOPING OUR FOREIGN POLICY. FOOD IS ONE OF THE KEY FACTORS IN NORTH/SOUTH AND EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND DURING MY PAST TWO YEARS AS THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS THE PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS OF THE GRAIN TRADE HAVE PLAYED AN IMPORTANT PART IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY AND IN MY DISCUSSIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT LEADERS.

TODAY, I WILL FOCUS ON SOME OF THE LONGER-TERM CONCERNS AND ISSUES OF FOOD PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION. THERE IS GENERAL AGREEMENT THAT FOOD ISSUES WILL ASSUME GREATER IMPORTANCE IN THE 1980s, SO CANADA'S ROLE AS A MAJOR FOOD PRODUCER AND EXPORTER MEANS THAT FOOD WILL RECEIVE GREATER ATTENTION IN OUR FOREIGN POLICY, BOTH AS A RESULT OF YOUR INCREASED GRAIN EXPORT TARGETS AND BECAUSE OF CANADA'S TRADITIONAL HUMANITARIAN CONCERN AND POSITIVE RESPONSES TO GLOBAL FOOD NEEDS.

WITH THIS BACKGROUND IN MIND, WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE FOOD PROBLEMS OF THE WORLD AS A CHALLENGE TO BE FACED WITH OTHER MAJOR PRODUCERS AND EXPORTERS. CANADA'S STRATEGY MUST BE TO ENCOURAGE THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF OUR AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL FROM A HEALTHY PRODUCTION BASE SO THAT WE CAN SHOULDER BOTH OUR DOMESTIC AND OUR INTERNATIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES. OUR STRENGTHS ARE WELL KNOWN. IN MY TRAVELS I AM CONSTANTLY REMINDED OF THIS. CANADIAN GRAIN IS SOLD IN MORE THAN 90 COUNTRIES. CANADA'S REPUTATION AS A RELIABLE SUPPLIER OF QUALITY WHEAT IS THE ENVY OF OTHER GRAIN GROWING COUNTRIES AND THIS HARD-EARNED REPUTATION IS CONSTANTLY BEING IMPROVED. CANADIAN AGRICULTURE IS ONE OF THE MOST PRODUCTIVE AND EFFICIENT IN THE WORLD, DESPITE OUR CLIMATE, WITH CANADIAN FARMERS PRODUCING MORE THAN FIVE