

Canada supports the general preference scheme of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development and we anticipate that the programme I have mentioned will encourage Latin American exports to Canada.

I venture to suggest, Mr. President, that the third United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in Santiago, Chile, this month will demonstrate quite clearly our collective determination to make trade and development work in tandem to the long-term advantage of both the developing nations and the more developed.

Regionally, a beginning has also been made in expanding Canada's participation in the area. On January 3, 1972, our Ambassador in Lima was accredited as a Permanent Observer to the Andean Pact. Last year a grant of \$200,000 was provided to this regional organization by the Canadian International Development Agency for studies designed to promote co-ordinated industrial development in the Andean region.

Bilaterally, steps are also in process to intensify relations with many of the countries where Canada's interests coincide most closely with those of Latin American countries. As our resources permit, we hope to expand these bilateral relationships to other countries and to other forms of collaboration. We anticipate that through a careful cultivation of relations -- particularly those aspects that will enrich the qualities of life that are unique to the countries concerned -- we may help mobilize the strength of our hemisphere.

Mr. President, Canada is conscious of its new role in the Organization of American States. We shall follow with great interest and attention the discussions of this General Assembly. My colleagues and I on the Canadian delegation will welcome discussions with all of the member countries and Permanent Observers that will assist us to a better understanding of the future of this Organization.

Canada has chosen to be associated with the future of the Americas and in order that there may be no confusion on this particular important point, I wish to conclude with the following excerpt from the Canadian foreign policy paper:

"Faced with the choice between letting Canada's relations with Latin America grow at their present rate, undertaking a systematic strengthening of these relations bilaterally and through the agencies of the inter-American system and the United Nations, and joining the OAS as a full member now, the Government has decided to follow the middle course. This will permit Canada's relations with the countries of Latin America