

Social dynamics in French Canada and particularly in Quebec during this period greatly contributed to the achievement of these major Canadian diplomatic objectives in Africa. I recall the key developments: the opening of six new Canadian embassies in the Maghreb and in French-speaking Africa and the accreditation of these heads of missions in all the other French-speaking countries on the continent; the mission of the Honourable Lionel Chevrier in 1968, which committed more than forty million dollars to development projects in French-speaking Africa; the rapid expansion of CIDA's economic support and technical assistance programmes in these countries, for which the total budget this year will be some \$105 million; Canada's active participation, with several African and European countries, in the creation of the Agency for Cultural and Technical Co-operation and the gradual emergence of the terms under which the provinces--especially Quebec--could become associated with the Canadian presence in Africa, particularly in the field of economic co-operation.

It was thus appropriate, in the light of these developments, to reassess Canada-Africa relations with a number of our partners--the more so since the Government had decided, following the last United Nations Special Session on Development, to conduct a systematic review of its relationship with the Third World. Had any doubts remained in my mind in this regard, the arguments invoked by the African ambassadors in Ottawa--both during my private talks with them and at the