

under the Canadian International Development Agency. Its role will be to initiate and support activities in Canada which will inform our people and sensitize them to the importance of understanding international development issues. This secretariat will receive the major part of its support from the Government, but we hope that it will also be supported by the business community, universities, professional institutions and voluntary associations, whose cooperation is vital to its success.

In addition, we intend to actively support other initiatives in strengthening the North-South Dialogue. The Brandt Commission Report proposed the convening of a mini-summit meeting of developed and developing countries to focus attention on the most pressing issues - an initiative in which we will participate fully. We also intend to work to ensure that North-South issues are given a major priority on the agenda of the next summit meeting of the most industrialized nations - a meeting of heads of government which Canada will host in 1981.

Finally, at the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Canberra, Australia next year we intend to do all in our power to make it the focus of attention - particularly given the presence of leaders of both developed and developing countries.

In concluding, Mr. Chairman, I hope that we can obtain the understanding and support of all Canadians in the search for solutions to the problems I have touched on tonight. For our part, the Government will continue to utilize the institution of the Commonwealth because we recognize that - as a microcosm of the North and South - it can continue to play a key role in breaking down barriers to international justice and progress. It has succeeded in this in the past and is now in a position to once again accept this important challenge.