

Canadian Foreign Policy

TEXTS

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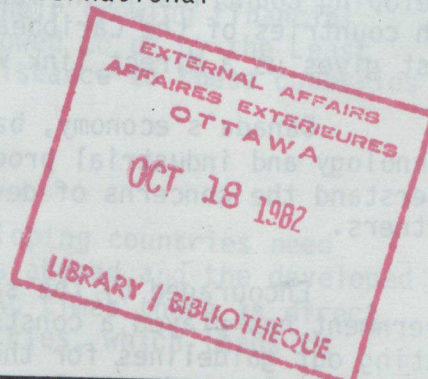
CANADA AND THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE

Introduction

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The countries of the North realize that in a world where economic, political, environmental and humanitarian interests are increasingly intertwined, it is impossible to remain in isolation from the problems of the South. Humanitarianism dictates that it is unacceptable for one-quarter of the world's population to starve when the rest is affluent. Enlightened self-interest points out the mutual benefits that will accrue when, according to World Bank estimates, over the next decade the developing countries will contribute more than 25 per cent of the increase in world production and account for about 30 per cent of the increase in world trade.

From the post-Second World War period to the present, the nature and focus of economic relations between developed and developing countries has gradually changed from emphasis on aid to other aspects of the international economic system. The developing countries' rallying call for a "new international economic order" in 1974 resulted in agreement the following year on areas in which specific future negotiations should concentrate to achieve a more just and equitable international system.



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