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is evidenced by Amir Jamal's important speech at the annual meeting of the Fund and the World Bank. It is, in effect, a well-informed, although specialized forum for policy discussion and action. What seems to me most important is that we bring to these discussions a sense of urgency and frame of mind that is open, objective and cognizant of our real needs.

We should also ensure that the Fund maintains its capacity to adapt to a rapidly-changing world economic situation in order to meet the needs of all of its members and serve the best interests of the world economy.

Our concerns over the reform of the structure of the international monetary system and its decision-making process must be inspired by our ultimate goal which is that this system function effectively. This is necessary for the expansion and balanced growth of the world economy and thus for the well-being of the North and South alike. The existing and prospective payments imbalances present major challenges which will require close international co-operation to overcome them.

Finally, I would like to mention briefly the roles of both bilateral donors and international financial institutions in helping developing countries deal with their financial and structural problems, particularly those related to energy.

Energy devel-  
opment aid

The energy question is as of vital interest and concern to Canada as to other countries. We have a great energy potential. We have also been vulnerable to the economic problems which have accompanied the world oil crisis. This gives us a strong incentive to develop further our own resources and to participate in international efforts to solve the world's oil problem. The oil-importing developing countries, as you discussed during your Round Table, have been particularly hard-hit by recent developments, and yet many of them have a large energy potential, including a potential for oil production. They need financial and technical assistance to develop these resources more rapidly.

Because of this sense of interdependence in the face of the world energy problem, the government's National Energy Program, which I tabled with my recent budget, contained an important initiative to help oil-importing developing countries. A new firm, Petro-Canada International, will be created to explore for oil solely in developing areas, where multinational oil companies are often reluctant to invest. Preliminary discussions have already taken place with the state oil companies of Mexico and Venezuela, in connection with a major joint effort to assist petroleum development in Latin America and the Caribbean. Some \$250 million has been allocated to this program. The program will reflect our development assistance objectives. It will be aimed at finding oil in countries which now must import it.

But what we and others can do bilaterally is dwarfed by the extent of the developing countries' need to adjust to the new energy situation. We believe an ambitious multi-lateral vehicle must be developed to deliver more assistance for them. We see promise in the proposal to create an "energy affiliate" of the World Bank. To operate on the scale required, it would need to employ innovative financing techniques, but it would also require very large support from both old and new donors. It offers the possibility

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