My government is concerned about the increasing concentration of corporations, particularly where takeovers serve to increase corporate size without creating new jobs or stimulating economic growth in Canada. Some aspects of this essentially non-productive activity will be examined and considered by Members of this House.

The importance of the fishing industry to Canada is fundamental. To provide increased safety for our fishermen and to protect their material investments, my government will place special emphasis on improving the management of small craft harbours in all fishing areas.

The forest sector is Canada's largest net export earner. My Ministers have substantially increased funding for forestry renewal. The government will continue to work in close partnership with the provinces, industry, and private woodlot owners to ensure that Canada's rich forest heritage continues as a vital source of wealth and jobs for future generations.

Measures will be introduced to strengthen Canada's cooperatives and to give recognition to their role in community development.

My government is deeply committed to supporting, with the provinces, a system of post-secondary education based on excellence and equality of opportunity. To help meet the challenges facing higher education, my government will propose a national forum on post-secondary education, to be held early next year.

My Ministers have begun to forge a partnership with the provinces, with the scientific and educational communities, and with business and labour in an effort to stimulate increased technological development in Canada. To assist and encourage cooperation between the universities and private sector in research and development, my government has announced an initiative that could provide a billion dollars in new funding for scientific research over the next five years.

My government will build upon this partnership by introducing a new four-point program to ensure that support for science, technology and education is more clearly focused in the national interest.

First, my government will appoint a National Advisory Board for Industrial Technology, chaired by the Prime Minister and composed of some of Canada's leading industrialists and scientists. This committee will assess national science and technology goals and policies, and their application to Canada's economy. Second, in full cooperation with the provinces, my government will seek to achieve high standards of excellence in education, technology development, and innovation. Third, it will introduce a new Federal Science and Technology Strategy, building on the initiatives undertaken to date. The strategy will introduce the necessary reforms within the federal administration to encourage Canada's international competitiveness. Fourth, my government will convene a National Conference on Technology and Innovation to assist Canada to define new technology goals.

My government's commitment to high technology as a motive force in Canada's economic growth will be expressed in legislation to establish a Canadian space agency. International cooperation in the peaceful use of space is essential to the development of key technologies. Working in cooperation with industry, universities and provinces, the new agency will help to ensure that the benefits of Canada's role in space will be shared by all Canadians.

III. Constructive Internationalism

The people of Canada maintain a deep interest in their country's role in the world. As Honourable Members of the Special Joint Committee of this Parliament know, Canadians seek a confident, constructive, active internationalism that reflects our hopes for the world as well as our own vital national interests.

From my own travels, and those of my Ministers, I can attest that other countries, large and small, look to Canada to play a vital role in the international community. Over the past year, I have travelled to Italy and the Vatican, while the Prime Minister has represented my government at the Commonwealth Conference, at the 40th Anniversary of the United Nations, the Francophone Summit, the Tokyo Summit, and in visits to France, Japan, China, South Korea, and the United States.

Our support for the multilateral institutions and agencies of which we are members remains the cornerstone of our foreign policy.

With Her Majesty the Queen as its head and unifying presence, the Commonwealth brings together countries of the North and South in support of common ideals and aspirations. The Commonwealth is central to Canada's efforts to promote, through concerted international action, a process of political dialogue in South Africa aimed at establishing representative government. My government will continue this effort, through the Commonwealth and the United Nations, until apartheid is abolished.

The world is aware how spontaneously the Canadian people rallied to the challenge of African famine and relief, demonstrating a concern and compassion so much a part of the national character. As Canadians, we will be called upon to respond to other challenges in the Third World. In reaffirming our commitments, it will be our purpose to find new partners in the ongoing efforts to pursue opportunities for increased development.

No task is more important to Canadians than preserving world peace and security.

My government is encouraged by the prospects for renewed dialogue between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. We share the hope of other nations of the world that progress towards these talks will be sustained and appreciable.

Arms control and disarmament are essential elements of Canadian policy. We are in the forefront of multilateral discussions concerning conventional arms control and confidence-building in Europe. In the nuclear field, both the verification of existing agreements and the conclusion of new accords are vital elements in Canada's efforts. As a further