

6. Canada has an excellent record in supporting research for the developing nations. The newly industrialized nations (MDCs) of the Third World, however, because of their advanced stage of development attract low priority in Canada's international assistance programme. As the process of industrialization proceeds they increasingly represent new and potentially valuable markets for Canadian high technology goods, useful sources of raw materials and powerful centres of influence within the Third World. They have, over the last few years, been unsuccessfully seeking close S&T relations with Canada.

- The opportunities presented by the MDCs should now be pursued but as a goal in its own right, and separately from the international development assistance programme because of the conflicting objectives involved. The thrust should concentrate on a few chosen areas within a limited number of MDCs selected on the grounds of appropriate S&T capabilities, market potential, natural resource importance and political influence. In devising optimum future approaches, particular attention should be paid to the possibility that the OPEC nations might tie future secure oil supplies to the transfer of technology and S&T assistance.

The Government-to-Government Dimension

7. The period commencing with the 1950s witnessed an entirely new phenomenon - the rapid and very substantial involvement of governments in international S&T activities of all kinds.

- As a small, but highly industrialized nation, independent of major trading and economic blocs, Canada stands to gain considerably from the opportunities offered by this relatively new dimension in international affairs. The Federal government, in exercising its role in government-to-government relations, can substantially assist the other sectors of Canada's S&T community by facilitating access to new knowledge, experience and technology possessed by other countries in areas of mutual interest, making possible actual participation in joint international programs, and assisting in the development of the new markets essential to the health of Canada's high technology industry.

The Ancillary Roles of S&T

8. Substantial potential value but also major problems are presented to the Federal government by what can conve-