

account the legitimate rights and interests of its population and would facilitate a speedy and secure return of the refugees. This would be facilitated if the interested parties exercised restraint.

Both sides expressed concern about the continuing tense situation in the Middle East. They emphasized the need for urgent measures of a constructive nature on the part of all the states concerned to achieve a just and enduring political settlement of the Middle East problem. They agreed that the efforts of the special representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Ambassador Jarring, and of the four powers in consultation to promote progress toward a comprehensive settlement which would implement all the provisions of Security Council Resolution 242 of November 22, 1967, should be supported.

Having exchanged views on the situation in Indochina, the heads of Government of the two countries noted that it continued to be a source of anxiety. They were in favour of restoring lasting peace in the area through a political settlement which would guarantee to all the peoples of Indochina the possibility of shaping their own destiny, in accordance with their national interests and without foreign interference.

Canada and the Soviet Union attach great importance to the United Nations, and confirm their determination to seek to strengthen the organization and to enhance its effectiveness in maintaining universal peace and security in accordance with the United Nations Charter. They attach great importance to the implementation of the Declaration on Strengthening International Security adopted by the United Nations and they express the hope that the member states of the United Nations will jointly agree on practical measures to put its main provisions into effect. The sides are in favour of the restoration of the legitimate rights of the Peoples Republic of China as the sole representative of China in the United Nations.

The Governments of Canada and of the U.S.S.R. attach great importance to the widest possible participation in the solution of the problems involved in preserving and improving the human environment, including such problems as marine pollution. The United Nations Conference on the Human Environment to be held in 1972 could make an important contribution to the study of this problem so vitally connected with the living conditions of people and the further progress of civilization.

In their exchange of views on Canadian-Soviet bilateral relations, the two sides noted with satisfaction the further development of exchanges of visits of government and political leaders of the two countries and of representatives of business and other circles, as well as wider contacts in the fields of science, education and culture.

They affirmed that increased exchanges and co-operation, particularly in scientific, technical,

cultural, as well as other fields, would provide a firm basis for the strengthening of friendly relations on the basis of mutual benefit. To this end, a General Exchanges Agreement designed to facilitate a broader range of exchanges was signed by the heads of Government during the visit.

Attaching due significance to the expansion of Soviet-Canadian co-operation in the economic, scientific and technological fields, which is facilitated by the similarity of the natural conditions and economic problems of the two countries, the Governments of Canada and the U.S.S.R. agreed to authorize the appropriate agencies to explore ways of establishing bilateral co-operation in these fields on a long-term basis, making use of the advantages of the international division of labour.

The two sides had a useful discussion of the Soviet proposal for a general agreement covering the fields of economic development and technological and industrial co-operation. The Canadian side will give further study to this proposal.

The two heads of Government also expressed satisfaction with the progress made in implementing the agreement between the Governments of Canada and the U.S.S.R. on Co-operation in the Industrial Application of Science and Technology. They noted that the Canadian-Soviet mixed commission set up under that agreement was functioning well and planned to hold its next regular meeting in Canada in May 1972. The working groups set up by the mixed commission have been concentrating on the sectors of industry offering the best prospects for further co-operation and the development of trade. Useful programs of practical activities have been formulated by these working groups to take place through the coming year. Both sides indicated their intention of promoting the further useful work of the commission and of the working groups on various sectors of industry and of elaborating and co-ordinating programs for joint technological and economic projects and research.

Reviewing Canadian-Soviet trade, the Canadian side expressed satisfaction with the recently concluded wheat sales contract. This commodity would continue to be an element in mutual trade between the two countries. The Canadian side indicated that it would welcome and facilitate an expansion of imports from the Soviet Union, including machinery and equipment, and the Soviet side indicated that they would do likewise with respect to imports from Canada.

It was agreed that negotiations concerning the prolongation of the trade agreement for a further four years would begin early next year. It was also agreed that during these negotiations the Canadian proposal to set up a joint commission for consultations on trade would be discussed.

Confirming the importance attached to the Arctic regions of both Canada and the U.S.S.R., both sides reviewed the progress made in the field of