

halieutique devraient accorder une priorité accrue à ce secteur. Qui plus est, monsieur le président, nous sommes d'avis que la sixième session du Conseil devrait s'intéresser de plus près au secteur halieutique et à ses possibilités de développement, de même qu'à l'étude de moyens permettant de tirer des ressources marines une part toujours plus importante des besoins mondiaux en protéines.

A cet égard, le Canada attache une grande importance à la coopération. Nous sommes prêts à partager avec les pays en voie de développement, désireux d'accroître leur auto-suffisance alimentaire, notre expertise et nos connaissances dans les domaines de l'agriculture, des pêches et de l'agro-alimentaire. Nous sommes conscients de l'importance d'augmenter la production alimentaire dans les pays moins développés et nous avons en conséquence accordé la priorité au développement agricole et rural dans notre programme d'aide au développement, tant sur le plan bilatéral que multilatéral. Pour ce faire, nous continuerons de verser près de 400 millions de dollars chaque année.

A key element of food security is a system of nationally held reserve stocks and improved international trade. Canada continues to seek realistic reserve supply commitments as part of an overall agreement to govern world trade of food grains. We believe that food security can only be based on security of supply which, in turn, can only be based on the provision of adequate returns to producers. We believe producers the world over can be counted upon to produce a constant supply of food to consumers at reasonable prices, provided they can be assured a fair return for their investment and efforts. If all governments were to take measures towards implementing this concept, it would constitute a major step towards the removal of hunger and scarcity.

Mr. President, the objective of the Food and Agriculture Organization when it was founded in Quebec City 34 years ago was contained in its motto "let there be bread". Today, the session I am about to open will examine anew the ways and means by which this objective can be realized.

We believe that agricultural technologies have been developed to the stage where nature is no longer the problem: the problem is man. Human management is a critical factor in the agricultural production of developing countries. Consequently we will announce later in the session a specific program aimed at assisting the food priority countries in developing long-term food strategy plans for the 1980s.

We believe that the primary aim of this session is to produce in every country and continent represented here an awareness that hunger is an affront to human dignity.

We need, as we have always needed, a continuing effort to eradicate hunger, with its attendant degradation and despair. If we wish to build a better world we must seek for each of its citizens the essential right to food for themselves and their families. Without food the enjoyment of other rights is denied.

We have made great progress in food production. Farmers in our own country are now harvesting food from land that once was arid, or bush, or marsh, and we have developed new species and new methods to make agriculture one of the most efficient industries of our nation. Our fishermen have similarly used their skills to harvest our