

reality that the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean are in different stages of development; therefore, we cannot assume that all countries will require the same formula.

Latin America is on the brink of having a more significant impact in international policy areas, and it now has a chance to pursue its vision of becoming an important international player. The challenge for Canada will be in the flexibility of our approach, and the way in which we accept the benefits that are offered through the maintenance and continuance of our relationship with both Latin America and the Caribbean.

In closing, it is Canadians' vision of the future that the Liberal government is trying to capture in this review process. The result of the process should permit policies that not only respond to the domestic needs of Canadians, but also project the international image that Canadians want their government and government initiatives to pursue. In all of this, we are working toward a better future, a future with considerably less poverty, effective sustainable development, and social and political equity, not only for ourselves but for people throughout the world, for our partners in Latin America, the Caribbean and Africa. I hope that you will assist us in achieving that goal.

Thank you.